

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS OF:

BLM NATIONAL OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2000

8:00 A.M.

1 Transcript of proceedings of BLM NATIONAL OFF-HIGHWAY  
2 VEHICLE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY listening meeting, taken  
3 on behalf of the BLM on Saturday, October 21, 2000,  
4 8:00 a.m., at Barstow Community College,  
5 Barstow, California.

6

7 For the BLM: U.S. Department of the Interior

8 Bureau of Land Management

9 By: MOLLY BRADY

10 California State Office

11 Desert Advisory IAN DAVIDSON, CHAIRMAN

12 Council: IILENE ANDERSON

13 MARILYN BEARSLEE

14 ISABELLA BURNS

15 BUFORD CRITES

16 ROY DENNER

17 NICK ERVIN

18 JIM REDDY

19 RANDY RISTER

20 DENNIS CASEBIER

21 SHERI DAVIS

22 KATHY DAVIS

23 MIKE POOL

24 JON STONE

25 Members of the Public

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1           BARSTOW, CALIFORNIA;  
2           SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2000; 8:00 A.M.;  
3           BARSTOW COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
4           IAN DAVIDSON: We're here today for the  
5 Advisory Council. We've got a big crowd here today.  
6 Glad to see that.  
7           We're going to have our meeting. We're  
8 going to go over a number of issues. Some of them  
9 I'm sure people here are interested in -- some, less  
10 interested in it. We'll accommodate that and  
11 anticipate people's interests and the public.  
12           I'd like to start our meeting with the  
13 pledge of allegiance. If you'll all please stand.  
14           "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the  
15 United States of America, and to the republic  
16 for which it stands, one nation, under God,  
17 indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."  
18           Please take your seats.  
19           All right. Here we go.  
20           Next on our formal agenda, we were going  
21 to talk about meeting dates, location, and agenda  
22 topics. We're going to move that back towards the  
23 end of the day to -- so we can get right into the  
24 agenda.  
25           I'm really happy to be able to say that

1 Today we have with us the State Director for the --  
2 the new State Director and Molly Brady, the acting --  
3 well, the representative for the California desert  
4 office. Tim Salt is on his honeymoon; so he's not  
5 with us today.

6 MOLLY BRADY: Thank you, Ian.

7 Can everybody hear me?

8 I'd like to welcome everyone to Barstow.

9 I'd like to say that I'm very pleased to see a great  
10 turnout here today. I think this is outstanding.

11 And I'd like to thank the Barstow College  
12 for accommodating us at a last-minute notice on  
13 getting us a larger place so we could handle this  
14 large turnout.

15 As Ian indicated, I'm sitting in for  
16 Tim Salt. I typically like to say, as I introduce  
17 myself, that I'm Tim Salt in drag, but that may be  
18 inappropriate; but, of course, I did it anyhow.

19 But I am sitting in today. I'm a Needles  
20 field officer for the Needles field office, and I  
21 hope all of you at some time can come out. All  
22 members of the Advisory Council, I believe, have been  
23 out there. So I really do like to have people come  
24 see our area.

25 Before -- before I get started, I did

1 want to also announce that we had -- we are having  
2 five members of our Advisory Council retiring. They  
3 will be retiring at the end of this year. And we had  
4 a dinner for them last night.

5 I had a chance to roast all of them.  
6 Several of them are not here, but I would like to  
7 announce that and thank them in this formal  
8 environment.

9 First of all, Ian Davidson, who has been  
10 serving as our chair and has represented the public  
11 at large, will be retiring. This is his last  
12 meeting, and what a meeting, huh?

13 I'd like to thank Ian. He's done a  
14 wonderful job.

15 Nick Ervin.

16 Hi, Nick.

17 Nick Ervin, who represented the  
18 environmental protection, is also retiring. I would  
19 also like to thank him.

20 Next on the list is Buford Crites, who  
21 has served as an elected official, is retiring.

22 Not here today, but also retiring from  
23 our -- our council is Jon Stone, who has  
24 represented --

25 I didn't recognize you without your

1 cowboy hat. I was told you weren't going to be here,  
2 but Jon, I'm so glad you're here. Well, I'm sorry  
3 you didn't have a chance to hear me roast you last  
4 night.

5 And Don tells me that Dick Condry showed  
6 up. But Dick Condry, who represents the wildlife  
7 interests, also is retiring from the Council.

8 And so I'd like to take this opportunity  
9 to thank them formally.

10 I got permission to do that.

11 Although serving as the federal  
12 representative on this Council is a great honor, I'm  
13 doubly honored to be -- to be able to introduce the  
14 District Advisor's Formal Council, and to the members  
15 of the public our new California State Director,  
16 Mike Pool.

17 Mike has over 25 years with the BLM at  
18 all levels of the organization and so he is a very  
19 experience BLMer. And we're very blessed to have him  
20 as our State Director.

21 He spent the last several days advising  
22 our offices here in Southern California. We have  
23 five field offices, as well as the district office.

24 I would just like to say that we are all  
25 very impressed with him, particularly impressed with

1 his commitment to the BLM mission, especially to the  
2 challenges.

3 And without further adieu, I'd like to  
4 introduce Mike Pool.

5 MIKE POOL: Good morning, everybody.

6 THE CROWD: Good morning.

7 MIKE POOL: I sincerely appreciate all of  
8 you who are attending today on a Saturday morning,  
9 during Game No. 1 of the World Series.

10 I've been here around three weeks. I'm  
11 trying to make all the rounds. Constituents see that  
12 I have a close relationship with Public Land  
13 Management of California.

14 To tell you a little bit about myself, I  
15 have been with the BLM 25, 26 years; five different  
16 field offices; and I've also worked Back East for two  
17 different tours.

18 In that time period, I've had the chance  
19 to work with all public lands, and I have worked  
20 closely with off-road constituency in other states in  
21 a variety of other areas.

22 I'm a strong advocate on Public Lands. We  
23 are the only agency, except maybe the United States  
24 Forest Service, that has that type of mission, and I  
25 value it quite greatly.



1           So -- and I appreciate the attendance  
2 this morning. It greatly pleases me when the public  
3 comes to public meetings.

4           You know, it's interesting. Leading up  
5 to this Advisory Meeting this morning, me and my  
6 Advisors talked about various forms of forums and how  
7 long we should be there. When they said a sizable  
8 representation by the off-road vehicle community will  
9 be here today, I said I will spend all day with these  
10 folks.

11          I had a chance to talk with various  
12 members of your leadership, and we talked about  
13 subsequent meetings and the weeks ahead so we can  
14 spend more time with smaller groups and talk about  
15 your constituency and some of the issues that we're  
16 facing today.

17          I did have a chance -- I was asked to  
18 come down and be part of the -- one of the land use  
19 weekends, and in advance of my participation, I  
20 received numerous phone calls from BLMs elsewhere and  
21 all who were voicing opinions on the off-road  
22 vehicles use in the Dunes. And I had a chance to  
23 spend a couple days with you folks, observe the  
24 activities, and I left with the impression that this  
25 is clearly -- this activity is clearly part of your

1 multiple-resource commissions.

2       You know, and I -- and then I walked the  
3 sand drags. I got to Competition Hill. I even got  
4 to ride the California Rail. And I can tell you when  
5 my son comes to visit -- he's attending the  
6 University of Utah -- he'd like to know more about  
7 the California Rail.

8       I really enjoyed my visit down there, and  
9 I had a chance to go around some of the RV camps and  
10 visit with you and get to know your family values. I  
11 understand that well.

12       So in any case, we are dealing with some  
13 difficult issues today. I come into the state, and  
14 we got a lawsuit. But it's important that you  
15 continue to work with our field officers. Our field  
16 office manager works very hard with the constituency  
17 of off-road vehicles. It is clearly part of  
18 California. Our efforts in this lawsuit, from time  
19 to time, need to be focused; that we stay engaged --  
20 that you all stay engaged with us, and it does have a  
21 lot of influence in the field.

22       Never walk away from the table. Never.  
23 Always say it is a great opportunity. I think that  
24 California -- I thank California for me to be here.

25       You know, when we take various breaks

1 during the course of the day, I'm open. It's my  
2 style to meet the people that I serve, and I'm a  
3 friendly guy, too.

4 So in any case, I'm delighted to be here.  
5 I'll hope I will get the opportunity to meet you here  
6 in the audience today.

7 So thank you.

8 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you, Mike. I thank  
9 you for being here today. Good engagement to hit.

10 So with that, we're going to have our  
11 Council member reports.

12 And, Jon, I'll start down at your end.

13 JON STONE: Hi, I'm Jon Stone. I'm the  
14 Renewable Resources Representative.

15 Today was my first time to meet  
16 Mike Pool, and I'm so glad to see that he is an  
17 advocate for multiple-use and I really --

18 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: We still can't  
19 hear you.

20 JON STONE: I was glad to see --  
21 Mike Pool seems to be a strong advocate for  
22 multiple-use.

23 I'll make it brief. I'll pass it on.

24 JIM REDDY: I'm Jim Reddy. Obviously, I  
25 am also pleased to be here. Happy to hear you are an

1 advocate of multiple-use.

2           MARILYN BEARSLEE: I'm Marilyn Bearslee.

3 I represent Transportation and right of cause

4 Interest to the co-counsel.

5           Sitting in front of you today are freshly

6 picked apples I brought from a Tehachapi orchard. I

7 hope you enjoy them. I am a Tehachapi resident and

8 very proud of it.

9           One thing I'd like to say is I work on

10 transportation issues within Kern County. Right now

11 we're working with San Bernardino County and enjoy

12 looking toward improvements on Highway 45, primarily

13 safety improvements, more safety. We'll be looking

14 at a four -- a four-laner for most of the way up the

15 eastern Sierra. Thank you.

16           SHERI DAVIS: My name is Sheri Davis, and

17 I represent the Public at Large Field Industry.

18           And so once again, I'm delighted to be

19 here. Very much into the multi-use on the

20 Public lands, and I want to thank you for being here

21 because, as you know, my industry has been through a

22 number of big meetings, also, that has been hitting

23 the newspapers. And so when the public comes out and

24 expresses their concerns, that's how we can be

25 involved and come to the meetings of the minds, which

1 is good for everybody because I know this group is as  
 2 much concerned as my group is about the healthy use  
 3 of public lands so that our children can enjoy our  
 4 land and really see what's going on here.

5 Thank you.

6 ROY DENNER: My name is Roy Denner. I'm  
 7 the recreation representative.

8 (Applause.)

9 It's not a popularity contest, guys.

10 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: It is today.

11 ROY DENNER: As a recreation  
 12 representative, as you know, I'm an OHV enthusiast,  
 13 also. That's not all. I'm an equestrian.

14 So I think OHV. I hope all of you  
 15 people, not just the OHVers -- but I want to first  
 16 say thank you all for coming because, as far as I'm  
 17 concerned, your message is loud and clear.

18 So thank you.

19 I do have a report. As you may or may  
 20 not know, I sit on the Imperial Sand Dunes  
 21 Organization. And the two main things are what the  
 22 TRT is doing with these lawsuits, which I'm not going  
 23 to comment on now. I believe we are going to get an  
 24 update, know what it is.

25 The second issue is user fees. We, the

1 TRT members, have been asking the BLM where all that  
2 money that is collected goes. The Imperial Sand  
3 Dunes, they have published a fairly detailed report.  
4 I have summarized it in a one-page report, and I have  
5 enough copies. I'm going to make it part of the  
6 record, and the rest of you should be able to find it  
7 on one of the various off-road websites.

8       There will be a few copies left after I  
9 pass it out to the Council members; so maybe you  
10 might stop by and pick them up.

11       IAN DAVIDSON: I'm Ian Davidson. I  
12 represent the Public at Large Co-Counsel. I'm a  
13 landscape architect. I live in Riverside. I'm an  
14 X-desert motorcross rider, a subject of the majority  
15 here today. And this is my last meeting.

16       So I'm look forward to having a good  
17 meeting today and going out with a bang, it looks  
18 like; so I'm glad to be here.

19       BUFORD CRITES: My name is  
20 Buford Crites. I'm the Mayor of the City of  
21 Palm Desert.

22       A quick report: This Council gave  
23 affirmative support, and due in fact to that  
24 legislation introduced by the House by  
25 Congressman Bono, passed unanimously in the House and

1 the Senate. It was introduced by the senator, passed  
2 unanimously, and so approximately 300,000 acres will  
3 be administered for first time jointly by the  
4 U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

5 We completed a Multiple-Species Habitat  
6 Conservation Plan in one or two years, and that is  
7 the shortest time frame in the southwest. That takes  
8 the place of a lot of separate BLM plans for all the  
9 BLM lands that are located from down to San Diego to  
10 County Line.

11 I want to congratulate the folks who are  
12 on this committee and people who are no longer on  
13 this committee, the Desert Advisory Committee. It  
14 can be characterized by being very frank and bold,  
15 but yet temperate and rhetoric and focused on policy  
16 and not on persons.

17 We, as the Desert Advisory Committee,  
18 with respect to the diverse points of view, do  
19 honestly feel that all that are seated at this table,  
20 in their own way, dearly love our Colorado desert.

21 Thank you.

22 ISABELLA BURNS: I'm Isabella Burns. I  
23 represent the California Federation of Mineralogical  
24 Societies, a Crestridge -- Ridgecrest group.

25 I represent the California Federation of

1 Mineralogical Societies. And it has its show in

2 Riverside, and the BLM had a booth there.

3         Duran represented the BLM on three days

4 and gave us information, what they do and maps and

5 things like that in order to help our people.

6         The only problem I had was some of the

7 women thought he was awfully cute. He wears his

8 uniform. They spent a lot of time talking to him. I

9 don't know if he appreciated that or not. He's

10 younger, as you know.

11         I belong to the Mineralogical Society,

12 and I'm starting my term in November. At a

13 convention I when to in Mojave, I was very fortunate

14 to have Sam Sharp there, who served on this Council

15 before, and he wanted me to share the same greeting.

16 He loves retirement, and he really knows how to

17 retire out in Southern California.

18         NICK ERVIN: I'm Nick Ervin. I'm

19 updating the management plan for the Imperial Dunes.

20 And the lawsuit is going to impact that. We

21 continued to work together for quite some time on

22 updating that plan, and I've enjoyed working on it.

23         So I'm eager to hear what people have to

24 say here today.

25         DENNIS CASEBIER: I'm Dennis Casebier. I



1 represent the public at large. I was very encouraged  
2 to hear the comments about multi-use. I'm a strong  
3 multiple-use person.

4 I'm especially interested in the history  
5 of the Desert and was involved in the development of  
6 Mojave's driving trails and the east Mojave Desert  
7 trail. And I presently live in Dodge, California.

8 IILENE ANDERSON: I'm Iilene Anderson.  
9 I represent Renewable Resources, and my affiliation  
10 is with the California Native Plant Society.

11 I'd like to take this opportunity to  
12 thank the Barstow and Needles field offices and for  
13 this wonderful turnout here. I enjoyed yesterday.  
14 As always, it was very informative, saw some  
15 beautiful country.

16 And, also, I'd like to welcome  
17 Director Pool to Colorado and to the Desert  
18 Conservation area today.

19 And I guess the two things that I wanted  
20 to communicate today is the California Native  
21 Plant Society encourages conservation of native  
22 vegetation in its natural communities. And the two  
23 things that we've been involved with is: One, we've  
24 recently set up a Native Plant Society chapter here.  
25 The Mojave Desert Chapter, which is the 31st chapter

1 in the state.

2 And secondly, we're also on a program to  
3 figure out what sort of vegetation resources are in  
4 California because it has not been documented in  
5 California to find out what plant life grows in what  
6 areas.

7 In September we had a training session  
8 for all of our volunteers to go out and be able to  
9 evaluate what plants are in what areas. And so  
10 that's our plan for the next, probably, decade is to  
11 get out in the desert area, report to BLM, to  
12 identify what sort of plant communities are there so  
13 that we have a report of that.

14 RANDY RISTER: I'm Randy Rister. I  
15 represent the Public at Large. I'd like to report on  
16 a couple items. I'm on the committee with Mr. Sharp.  
17 I've already toured an RV park in Imperial County  
18 where we entered into a contract with and developed  
19 that off-road vehicle park. That park had a problem  
20 with transportation, but we recently signed a  
21 contract, with Caltrans' assistance, to build a  
22 freeway from Interstate 8. It will be know as "S-7."  
23 It goes to the new port of entry to the Mexican  
24 border. It actually goes right in front of  
25 Hayward Dune RV Park; so we'll have good

1 transportation within the next six months.

2 Also, we have completed the planning with  
3 the wetlands in particular to clean up the problem  
4 with the new river. The plantings have been  
5 complete. We are introducing the water the next  
6 three years, additionally.

7 I'm the Director of Parks and Recreation  
8 for Imperial County; I also sit on the Fish and Game  
9 for Imperial County; and I'm also an off-road user.  
10 And it's great to have you here at this turnout.

11 Thank you.

12 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you for the review  
13 of your agenda.

14 The next item on our agenda is the break.  
15 We're going to forego the break. We had originally  
16 scheduled for time for Mike Pool to speak. That's  
17 been reduced down because he'll be here all through  
18 this meeting.

19 So we're going to move into after the  
20 scheduled break, which has been canceled. We're  
21 going to have an update on National Off-Highway  
22 Vehicle Management Strategy by Molly Brady.

23 The next item is going to be a briefing  
24 on the Center for Biological Diversity Lawsuit,  
25 again, by Molly Brady.

1           And, by Molly Brady, next will be a  
2 briefing on the California and Desert District  
3 Non-Profit Association.

4           The next item will be a discussion of the  
5 Draft Recreation Fee District Policy by Ira long.  
6 This will require Council action.

7           After these items are complete, we'll  
8 take public comment on these items until lunch.

9           We're going to evaluate how many people  
10 want to speak and try to gauge that. Our goal today  
11 is to let everybody speak who wants to speak.

12           Obviously, there should be some  
13 limitations on the time that people are allowed to  
14 speak. We'll limit people right now to three  
15 minutes, and we'll gauge that as we go along when we  
16 receive the written comments.

17           We'll enter those into the public  
18 record. I've had some presented to me today, and  
19 I've also had some mailed to me. These will be  
20 entered into the public record and be available at  
21 the public meeting.

22           You do have the written comment letters  
23 that you brought that you want to read from. If you  
24 could, please, try to paraphrase. Enter those  
25 letters into the Public Record.

1           We are prepared to work through lunch if  
2 we have to. We're just going to -- get me a burger  
3 or something. We'll just gauge that. But our main  
4 goal is to try to get to everybody and give them the  
5 opportunity that these need.

6           On these above items, we're going to ask  
7 you hold off on public comment. We think it will  
8 allow us to better hear everybody and what they want  
9 to say.

10          I'll take a moment now to point out that  
11 we have a court reporter here today. It's very  
12 important that people speak just one person at a time  
13 so she can accurately transcribe what has been said  
14 today.

15          She will stop the proceedings as much as  
16 she needs to to ensure that only one person is  
17 speaking at a time. So we need an orderly meeting.

18          Following lunch, we'll come back, and  
19 we'll have a report -- follow-up report for the  
20 Jawbone Canyon-Rudnick situation.

21          Again, this is an item that we're going  
22 to gauge on how the meeting is going. This is an  
23 item that we're prepared to, I think, forego or have  
24 an abbreviated report.

25          We're -- we'll probably go ahead with

1 that presentation. That's at 1:30.

2 2 o'clock, we have the Proposed Cadiz  
3 Groundwater Storage and Dry-Year Supply Program.  
4 We'll have an overview of that project.

5 That's the last item on our agenda. Then  
6 we'll have more time for Council discussion and  
7 recommendations.

8 We'll also, at that time, talk about  
9 future Council meeting dates, locations, and agenda  
10 topics at the end of our -- at the end of our  
11 meeting.

12 We've got a break scheduled for 3:00, and  
13 basically, continued public comment is on the rest of  
14 the day.

15 The adjournment is scheduled at 5:00 this  
16 evening.

17 We've had a request that there are some  
18 seats available. If we could ask people if they  
19 could move in and take a seat. There's been some  
20 requests because of -- we don't want to keep -- get  
21 the exits blocked. We have a large crowd today, and  
22 we need to keep those exits clear.

23 All right. I would like the people to  
24 remember not to block the door, and until those  
25 chairs arrive and are in place, try to squeeze in.

1 We'd appreciate it.

2 All right. Let's move in to our next  
3 agenda item: The BLM National Off-Highway Management  
4 Strategy, an update by Molly Brady.

5 MOLLY BRADY: Thank you.

6 As many of you know, we did have a public  
7 meeting at our Ridgecrest District Advisory Council  
8 Meeting on the National OHV Management Strategy.

9 The strategy will be reflected in draft  
10 for a 30-days public review comment period. Target  
11 date for release is November 15.

12 Basically, the strategy overall is aimed  
13 at addressing OHV Management and access-related  
14 issues while protecting environmentally sensitive  
15 areas on the public lands. That's the objective  
16 during the 30-days public comment period.

17 The BLM plans to conduct a satellite  
18 downlink interactive broadcast with the agency's  
19 Resource Advisory Council as well as the other  
20 Resource Advisory Councils nationwide.

21 Those -- the downlink, I do not have a  
22 date for that yet. It will be announced at a time --  
23 later time. The District Advisory Council will  
24 attend at whatever is their closest field office.

25 Each one of the field offices and the

1 District Office has a satellite downlink.  
2 So it would not be a meeting of the  
3 District Advisory Council. It would be that each  
4 Advisory member -- including those who are due to  
5 retire, because they will not have retired by then --  
6 are expected -- all of them are expected to  
7 participate.

8 Members of the public, of course, are  
9 invited to review those sessions, although there will  
10 be some limitations on space where we have those.

11 Although I'm not able to share with you  
12 today the substance of the strategy -- they didn't  
13 tell me any of the substance. They wanted to keep me  
14 as ignorant as possible at this point so I would not  
15 be in an awkward situation.

16 However, I would like to share with you  
17 some of the summary information and all of the  
18 comments that were collected during the scoping  
19 phase.

20 We had a scoping meeting between June of  
21 this year, June 2000, and August. We had 44 scoping  
22 or listening meetings nationwide, throughout the  
23 West, as well as in Washington D. C.

24 Our public input which you provided is in  
25 printed materials, letters, and so forth. We got --



1 we had information on our website. And so we got a  
2 lot of information sent to us.

3       There were over 4700 responses received:  
4 250 E-mail responses, 830 presented mailers, and  
5 1300 letters.

6       This is a lot of information to absorb  
7 and analyze. But all of those comments, as well as  
8 the public testimony, from transcripts -- and some  
9 came from the listening meeting -- were considered in  
10 this policy strategy. Any additional materials that  
11 have arrived since the close of the comment period on  
12 August 31, those comments are also going to be  
13 considered during the review period of the draft.

14       I did, by the way, speak with Washington  
15 and indicated that we were going to have a large  
16 crowd of individuals and quite a few comments, both  
17 from your Advisory Council members today, as well as  
18 members from the audience, and I asked how we should  
19 handle these. And they said that those comments,  
20 transcripts, and any written materials should be  
21 submitted to Washington; and they will be considered  
22 and addressed, certainly, during the review of the  
23 draft strategy.

24       Most of the issues the public was  
25 concerned about were access issues, law enforcement

1 concerns, wilderness and wilderness study areas,

2 signing, mapping, and road closures.

3 Environmental considerations and concerns

4 about OHV-related impacts, inventory, and

5 monitoring -- those are the general subject areas on

6 which we received comments.

7 Basically, I don't have any additional

8 information. There is a handout -- I'm assuming that

9 was out on the table -- that everyone got, which was

10 the press release about the draft strategy going out

11 to be reviewed on November 15.

12 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you, Molly.

13 Comments, questions from the Council?

14 Mr. Denner.

15 ROY DENNER: I guess, as everyone knows,

16 I have something to say about it. I probably spent

17 the last month of my life talking to off-roaders

18 about two areas: The lawsuit suit and this new

19 National Management Strategy.

20 Two major concerns, I guess, are the

21 window of time that is being allowed to collect

22 input; and secondly, the terms of the substance

23 analysis of this new strategy that is being directed

24 from the White House.

25 Addressing the substance question first.

1 The people who talk to me seem to be mostly concerned  
2 about "Here comes another new environmental document,  
3 which provides no mechanism, if it can be shown, to  
4 impact it the environment." Probabably nobody in  
5 this room -- that's a totally bad idea.

6       The problem is this document, just like  
7 every other document I have on my desk, has no  
8 mechanism to protect recreationalist opportunities.  
9 And if, you know, the document has a way to review  
10 recreational activity and let us know of any kind of  
11 impact -- if you lose a trail, we're going to open  
12 one here, or we're going to open up one right over  
13 there.

14       The off-roader in the California desert  
15 is the only thing becoming extinct in the California  
16 desert.

17       Now, I know there are some people who  
18 don't agree with me about the need for us, the  
19 public, to insist that the federal agencies include  
20 protection of recreational opportunities and  
21 management plans. For clarification, I have a letter  
22 that needs to be added to your commission.

23       IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

24       Any other comments?

25       ROY DENNER: I'm not through.

1 I have a letter here I'd like to read  
2 into the minutes, and I think it's available and,  
3 believe me, it's worth taking the time to read it. I  
4 do not think anybody in the audience minds. It is  
5 addressed to the Bureau of Land Management.

6 "It was recently brought to my attention  
7 That the Bureau of Land Management is in the  
8 process of developing a new National  
9 Off-Highway Vehicle Management Strategy. I am  
10 concerned about the very short comment period  
11 allowed for public input on this new management  
12 strategy.

13 "It is my understanding that you plan to  
14 only allow public comment on the draft strategy  
15 for 30 days, from mid-November to mid-December.

16 I find this amount of time to be inadequate for  
17 public comment. I would urge you to allow at  
18 least 120 days for a new management plan that  
19 has such a significant national impact. It is  
20 important to me that the OHV recreation  
21 community has sufficient time to make their  
22 concerns known to the BLM.

23 "I have also been told that the BLM plan  
24 under development is designed to curtail  
25 recreational activity if it is shown to

1 negatively impact the environment. While I  
2 believe this is appropriate, within reason, I  
3 am troubled that none of the documents provide  
4 for mitigating the impact of this plan on  
5 various forms of OHV recreation. This is not  
6 fair to the many thousands of Americans who use  
7 public lands for recreation during their  
8 leisure time. I ask that you provide me the  
9 draft document before it is finalized so I can  
10 review your approach to mitigate impacts on OHV  
11 recreation. "Thank you for your attention to  
12 my concerns. I look forward to working with  
13 you to establish a program that will benefit  
14 our off-road community and our environment.  
15 With best regards. Randy 'Duke' Cunningham,  
16 Member of Congress."

17 I have a copy here of this letter for  
18 all of the DAC members and the BLM officials that are  
19 here. This letter is addressed to Director Fry.

20 "I am writing to express my profound  
21 concern over the recent efforts to curtail  
22 Off-Highway Vehicle use on Bureau of Land  
23 Management administered lands. The basis for  
24 my concern is a BLM management plan for the  
25 California Desert District that calls for a

1     vastly reduced level of off-highway use by the  
2     region's recreationalists.

3         "A particularly troubling aspect of this  
4     plan is that it is ostensibly designed to, in  
5     part, recognize the interests of OHV users.  
6     This is a gross misrepresentation of the intent  
7     of this plan. After reviewing this matter and  
8     after careful consultation with members of the  
9     California Desert Advisory Council, I am  
10    convinced that this management plan does  
11    everything but recognize the needs of our  
12    off-road enthusiasts

13         "Specifically, I am concerned that  
14    although this plan proposed a method for  
15    reducing OHV activity on BLM lands, it does not  
16    outline a process for offsetting these  
17    reductions by establishing or expanding use  
18    elsewhere. I firmly maintain that as public  
19    servants, Director Fry, we are obligated to  
20    balance the needs of our communities and those  
21    of the environment. Considering the absence of  
22    a mitigation mechanism to ensure off-roading  
23    will continue to thrive in our desert regions,  
24    it appears the BLM may be failing to recognize  
25    this balance.

1        "I look forward to your response to the  
2        issues I have raised. If you have any  
3        questions regarding my concerns, please feel  
4        free to contact me at your earliest  
5        convenience. Sincerely, Duncan Hunter."

6        I have a copy of that letter to the BLM's  
7        attention. One more. Just bear with we.

8        "It has come to my attention that the  
9        Bureau of Land Management is in the process of  
10       developing a new national Off-Highway Vehicle  
11       management strategy, one goal of which BLM  
12       announced in January to be 'ensuring  
13       environmentally responsible OHV use on  
14       BLM-managed public lands.'

15       "I am supportive of such a goal, and wish  
16       you well in your efforts to achieve a  
17       well-balanced plan; however, I am troubled by  
18       what appears to be a very minimal time period  
19       that BLM is allowing for public input as part  
20       of this process. It is my understanding that  
21       once available, only 30 days will be allowed  
22       for public review and comment on the draft  
23       management strategy, from mid-November through  
24       mid-December, which is right in the heart of  
25       the holiday season. It would seem appropriate,

1 given that this is a brand new proposal with  
2 broad national impact, to allow for an  
3 extension of the comment period in order to  
4 provide ample opportunity for public review and  
5 input.

6 "It has been a very high priority to me,  
7 throughout my career in public service, to  
8 ensure that reasonable public access is  
9 maintained to public lands, and I have every  
10 expectation that the BLM's OHV management  
11 strategy will ultimately reflect this  
12 sentiment. In this regard, I am aware of other  
13 BLM management plans which are either under  
14 development or currently being implemented, and  
15 that each of these plans contains a provision  
16 to curtail recreational activity if it can be  
17 demonstrated to adversely impact the  
18 environment. Clearly, this is a reasonable  
19 approach, if based on sound science. However,  
20 what concerns me about these plans is the  
21 apparent absence of any corresponding provision  
22 for mitigation of various forms of public  
23 recreation. In the instance of the management  
24 strategy which you are now developing, it is  
25 essential that this plan contain a provision



1     which provides for continued opportunity for  
2     public recreation on BLM lands. It would be  
3     patiently unfair to the thousands of Americans  
4     who care deeply about our natural environmental  
5     heritage, and enjoy responsible off-road  
6     recreation activities, for your management  
7     strategy not to provide for their continued  
8     access to BLM lands.

9           "Thank you in advance for your  
10    consideration of this request, and I look  
11    forward to hearing from you as to how you  
12    intend to provide for continued responsible  
13    public access to your public lands." Brian  
14    Bilbray, Member of Congress.

15           IAN DAVIDSON: Molly said that she  
16    received from 4,600 or 5,000 comments on this  
17    proposal.

18           ROY DENNER: I would like to make a  
19    motion to that, Council, that that amendment -- that  
20    the comment period on this draft now be extended to  
21    120 days as some people have recommended.

22           Isabella.

23           ISABELLA BURNS: I'd like to second  
24    that.

25           IAN DAVIDSON: It's been moved and

1 seconded. Any other discussion on that?

2 I see no discussion. I'll call for the  
3 vote.

4 Those in favor of an extension of the  
5 comment period to 120 days, please signify by saying  
6 "Yeah."

7 Those opposed?

8 I see none. Comment period will be  
9 extended 120 days.

10 ROY DENNER: One more, since I'm on a  
11 roll. I'm also going to make a motion that we  
12 recommend that the new Draft National OHV Management  
13 Strategy contain a provision for mitigating impact on  
14 recreational use.

15 IAN DAVIDSON: We have a proposal.

16 Any seconds?

17 DENNIS CASEBIER: I second.

18 IAN DAVIDSON: We have a second.

19 Discussions or questions?

20 BUFORD CRITES: I'm sure if the second  
21 motion changes existing policies, and if so what --  
22 what is the legal precedence? I know that as a  
23 person who at least knows the confines of my own  
24 geographic area is responsible for advocated changes  
25 in public policy. We also make darn certain that we

1 have a very good staff teaching as to the  
2 ramifications of it.

3       So I don't have an initial objection to  
4 this, but I wouldn't vote for it at this moment  
5 without having staff give us some protective policy  
6 and so on.

7       DENNIS CASEBIER: I'm not quite sure  
8 what's meant by "mitigate." To offset or -- off any  
9 kind of restriction on off-road vehicle use from what  
10 area? Into any open area? I guess I'm not sure what  
11 that motion means.

12       IILENE ANDERSON: I think I would like to  
13 see it extended. I'm not against it, but I wonder if  
14 this isn't just giving into any one recreation.

15       The other thing here all of us deserve the  
16 things we want. But this does sort of just leave  
17 us -- it doesn't hinder us, but it does leave us.

18       MARILYN BEARSLEE: Yes. I would just  
19 like to say that it might be premature prior to  
20 strategy being released. I think that the review  
21 period -- it's up to the Bureau and to the members of  
22 DAC to read the document and to think about how they  
23 would like mitigation measures to be worded. I think  
24 it's a little premature.

25       JIM REDDY: I'm confused as to the way

1 we're suggesting this be handled. One of my  
2 interests is, in a sense -- is very disturbing  
3 because many of the trails we might be closing might  
4 actually be access roads to a claim from the mining  
5 community, and we're not as well represented by the  
6 OHVers.

7       And the mining industry needs more than  
8 30 days to review all the routes that you're  
9 proposing on closing because all of them impact the  
10 OHV community. Closing all the roads that we want  
11 open, you wouldn't think the mining district needs a  
12 great deal of time to review the roads that are to be  
13 assuming closures.

14       In talking about mitigation and I main  
15 interest is similar to what Isabella's is. We don't  
16 want an acre here because you take an acre here.  
17 This is where the rock hound could be, or where the  
18 miner happens to be.

19       So before we decide on how we interpret  
20 mitigation, I think we need more than 30 days for  
21 review -- what it is that comes out. And then we  
22 have a chance to look at it. But 30 days is a very  
23 short time, particularly over the holidays.

24       IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

25       Molly.

1           MOLLY BRADY: This draft strategy is  
2 intended to develop proposals for how we will have  
3 local institutions. This is the way they put it is  
4 to solve problems at the local level.

5           It is not going to prescribe any  
6 closures; it's not going to prescribe any openings;  
7 it's not going to prescribe any actions on the  
8 ground. It will, though, provide how to solve  
9 problems that -- that are -- that arrive or that we  
10 identify.

11           One of the things I think in this  
12 conversation here -- I would be a little bit  
13 concerned about anything that said "an acre for an  
14 acre." That's very prescriptive. And also, as  
15 Buford was saying, I need to look at the  
16 ramifications and the legalities. Those issues -- I  
17 would not think we could do that.

18           IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.  
19           Buford.

20           BUFORD CRITES: I guess the single issue  
21 that seems to be across the west is the issue of  
22 urbanization of open space, and that's an issue that  
23 we all know, whether it's Iowa, Montana, or  
24 California -- so on and so forth. I kind of  
25 appreciate that even within California, that drive.

1           Ridgecrest does not necessarily have the  
2 same kind of problem as in El Centro. As I said in  
3 the last meeting, we are chasing across areas that  
4 are supposedly closed.

5           And so anyhow, I'm not sure we'll want a  
6 national strategy anyhow. But to include something  
7 that is as prescriptive, one for one, before you  
8 receive the drafted document, before you have seen  
9 what it is, would not be good policy.

10          IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

11          Roy.

12          ROY DENNER: The idea "one for one" was  
13 not my idea. But I want to ponder what Molly said.

14          You know, it's true that -- the comments  
15 she made are true -- to take care of our problems and  
16 find ways to satisfy problem issues. But the problem  
17 issues are all problems within the environment.

18          You know, that's -- and I would love to  
19 see a large National Strategy for Public Land Use  
20 that we could get the mining people and the rock  
21 hounds and everybody else on board, because the more  
22 forces we have to turn this away, the better it is.  
23 But the fact is -- the fact of the matter is the Feds  
24 have announced this is a Public Land Strategy.

25          I agree with Buford, but the fact is this

1 document is coming out, and it's going to be law if  
2 it's put into effect.

3 Now, I want to go back to making my  
4 original motion. I want to make a motion that this  
5 document include some mechanism -- whatever they come  
6 up with, what you think is fair -- for mitigation on  
7 OHV recreation simply as we have commented.

8 The topic of Federal Government is it's  
9 presently -- it is going to be 10 times more  
10 difficult to get our desires and requirements into a  
11 document; so I'm back on the "one for one." I didn't  
12 want to do that.

13 The motion is that we want to see this  
14 document include some form of mitigation for OHV  
15 recreation.

16 DENNIS CASEBIER: That's the motion that  
17 was seconded.

18 IAN DAVIDSON: Any other comments or  
19 questions, Council members?

20 At this point I'm calling for the vote.

21 Those in favor of the motion, please raise  
22 their right hand.

23 Let's get a hand count.

24 Those opposed. Someone give us a tally.

25 That motion did not carry. Do we have

1 any more discussion on this issue from the Council  
2 members?

3 I see none.

4 We'll move to the next issue.

5 We're going to have a briefing about the  
6 lawsuit from Molly Brady.

7 MOLLY BRADY: Thank you, Ian.

8 March 16 of 2000, a suit was filed by the  
9 Center for Biological Diversity; the Sierra Club; and  
10 the Public Employees Environmental Responsibility,  
11 also know as "PEER," against the Bureau of Land  
12 Management of violation of the Endangered Species Act  
13 by failing to enter into a formal consultation with  
14 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services on the affects of  
15 the adoption of the California Desert Conservation  
16 Area Plan and on the threatened and endangered  
17 species in the California desert.

18 On July 20 -- by the way, this was before  
19 the U.S. Federal District Court for the  
20 Northern California District in San Bern- -- in  
21 the San Francisco Division.

22 On July 20, 2000, there was a move for  
23 Summary Judgment, and the Center for Biological  
24 Diversity asked for summary judgment that BLM was in  
25 violation of Section 7.



1           On August 25, a Stipulation and Order was  
2 issued where BLM agreed to initiate a formal  
3 consultation schedule that would -- that we would  
4 initiate a formal consultation on the northern and  
5 eastern Mojave Desert and north and eastern  
6 Colorado Desert planning efforts -- those are both  
7 amendments affecting the Colorado Plan -- and  
8 possibly on the Coachella Valley Plan. That was for  
9 all the remaining lands not covered under those two  
10 lands. We agreed to initiate a consultation on this  
11 California Desert plan as it is been implemented.

12           September 7, there was an initial  
13 settlement meeting before the judge in San Francisco,  
14 and he assigned a Magistrate to work with the parties  
15 on the settlement discussions.

16           On September 18, settlement discussions  
17 began, and it was facilitated at that time by a  
18 Magistrate.

19           October 12, we had a Notice and Motion  
20 for Permanent Injunction filed by the Center for  
21 Biological Diversity seeking an order permitting or  
22 otherwise allowing the grazing of domestic livestock  
23 within designated desert tortoise habitat until the  
24 BLM has carried out a consultation on the CDCA plan.

25           As of yesterday -- as of today the BLM

1 and the plaintiffs have reached a settlement on  
2 restrictions on vehicle use and portions of the  
3 Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area. That is to  
4 protect the Peirson's milk vetch plant found nowhere  
5 else in the United States.

6 The restriction on the Dunes are focusing  
7 on the closures of the central portion of the Dunes,  
8 a smaller closure north of the wilderness area, and  
9 the 160-acre closures south of I-8.

10 If the judge approves the October 20  
11 settlement, the restrictions will be effective on the  
12 date of the approval, and the BLM will publish the  
13 closure notices of these revisions -- it is planned  
14 to put signs around the closures before November 22,  
15 2000, because this was just today -- I should  
16 mention, by the way, that there were intervenors -- a  
17 number of intervenors on this legislation. Many are  
18 here today: The High Desert Multiple use Coalition,  
19 Desert Vipers, San Diego Off-Road Coalition,  
20 California Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs, and  
21 the Blue Ribbon Coalition.

22 During our lunch break, Greg Thompson,  
23 who is our El Centro field manager, is going to  
24 actually set up a session outside with maps with  
25 further materials, with a copy of the actual

1 settlement, the Stipulation Injustice Reliever, the  
 2 Peirson's milk vetch -- so that people have copies of  
 3 this and have a chance to review it in great depth.

4 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you, Molly.

5 Any comments or questions from Council  
 6 members on this?

7 IILENE ANDERSON: I have a question,  
 8 Molly.

9 On the injunction that was filed for  
 10 grazing of livestock, is that just for the area in  
 11 the CDCA plan and not in the designated desert  
 12 tortoise habitat? And I provided you with a copy of  
 13 that Notice and Motion also which gave you very  
 14 special information. I'm not exactly an expert on  
 15 it.

16 IAN DAVIDSON: Any comments or  
 17 questions?

18 DENNIS CASEBIER: I would just make a  
 19 note that the Imperial Sand Dunes area is not the  
 20 only area to receive the attention of that  
 21 organization. There are at least two or three  
 22 lawsuits already filed having to do with those  
 23 habitats.

24 Also on the tortoise issue, trail use in  
 25 the mountains surrounding the Coachella Valley,

1 that's one, I believe, that their attention's  
2 primarily devoted to RVs. There also is one about  
3 mountain biking and hiking and a whole variety of  
4 other things, and there's very pressing time on some  
5 of these lawsuits.

6 IAN DAVIDSON: Mr. Denner.

7 ROY DENNER: I want to make it clear to  
8 the public that those people mentioned as the  
9 last-minute intervenors have not signed away any kind  
10 of sand dune areas, and I'm quoting the bikers, your  
11 motorcycle club, the High Desert Coalition, and  
12 California Four-Wheel Drives; so they have not signed  
13 away any of your Desert.

14 IAN DAVIDSON: Any other comments or  
15 questions from Council members?

16 I see none.

17 We will move along to the next issue  
18 unless -- does anybody need to take a break at this  
19 time? Is there any need?

20 IAN DAVIDSON: We're going to take a  
21 brief 15-minute break.

22 Please be back in your places after  
23 15 minutes so we can continue on.

24 Thank you.

25 (Break taken from 9:22 to 9:36.)

1 IAN DAVIDSON: Can I ask everyone --

2 can I ask everyone to please take their seats.

3 Please, take your seats.

4 All right. All right. Let's get

5 started, again.

6 Please, stop talking, and let's get on

7 with the agenda. Thank you.

8 The next item is the California Desert

9 District Non-Profit Association. We're going to have

10 a preview by Molly Brady.

11 MOLLY BRADY: Probably getting tired of

12 hearing me.

13 The original agenda item for this was

14 calling for the Advisory Council to take action. That

15 has subsequently gotten changed. I'll brief you and

16 give you an update on the Association's concerns.

17 Basically, my objective is to provide an

18 updated briefing on a proposal to establish a

19 Desert-Wide, Non-Profit Association and provide

20 financial support and advocacy and responsible use of

21 the California desert.

22 A little bit of background: In the

23 spring of 1998 the Bureau of Land Management

24 Technical Review Team was looking at a demo program,

25 and it did include several District Advisory Members.

1 There was a suggestion about the possibility of a  
2 Desert-Right Non-Profit Association which would be a  
3 group wherein people would actually -- members, not  
4 of the public -- would become members of this group,  
5 as well as it would be a -- an opportunity for the  
6 Association to raise funds, gain financial support on  
7 a broader scale from anyone who had an interest in  
8 the desert.

9       There was a workshop -- or a two-day  
10 workshop held in October of 1998 to help the advisors  
11 with this proposal, proposed nonprofit. They  
12 composed a list of shared values, identified some of  
13 the key leaders and leadership needs to move this  
14 forward, as well as to identify some specific  
15 organizational goals for the proposed nonprofit.

16       The workshop made some good progress in  
17 developing vision statements and identifying the  
18 common values. And these developed an initial vision  
19 statement for the organization for enhancing this and  
20 moving forward on this action; however, no real  
21 progress has really been made since that time and for  
22 a number of reasons.

23       One of them was a real concern -- very  
24 legitimate concern about how this would relate to and  
25 affect other nonprofit Associations. We had some

1 very successful efforts, as many folks here know, in  
2 developing friends, groups, and in utilizing the very  
3 sites specific nonprofit associations needed to help  
4 in our efforts.

5       There was a skepticism and a concern that  
6 a large, umbrella type of nonprofit might in some way  
7 interject within the local groups. So this was a  
8 major concern.

9       A second major concern, we haven't  
10 actually incorporated or captured all of interests  
11 that need to be involved in this group.

12       Some of the -- it was very, very focused  
13 on users at the initial stage, and we needed to  
14 capture and have the support of all of our interests  
15 in the desert in order for it to work.

16       And the third major problem was concern  
17 about whether or not we should perhaps expand this  
18 beyond just public lands and also incorporate  
19 other -- other lands managed by the Park Service and  
20 managed by the State Parks and Recreation in some  
21 effort.

22       We have a Desert Managers Group wherein  
23 we work with all the -- we collaborate with all of  
24 the major federal land managing agencies, as well as  
25 other agencies that have an interest, and that's at

1 Federal- and State-level agencies. And there was a  
2 great deal of interest of some groups that perhaps we  
3 should make this a very broad group for all -- all  
4 the deserts needs.

5       So given those three concerns, we did not  
6 move forward on this, and what I would like to  
7 suggest and what -- as I initially had said, I wanted  
8 this to be an action meeting because the Desert  
9 Management's Group had initially said these didn't --  
10 they were not interested in moving forward, but I  
11 have since heard that we're probably going to  
12 reconsider this the Desert Management Group looking  
13 at a broad nonprofit.

14       I would like to say that there are some  
15 real good models of nonprofits and recently in the  
16 Las Vegas area a new group called "Outside Las Vegas"  
17 a nonprofit which included the Bureau of Land  
18 Management, the Forest Service interests have just  
19 been formed, and I look at that as one model of the  
20 direction we might go.

21       I have don't believe I have anything more  
22 to discuss. I think it's a great opportunity. We  
23 will, though, be moving forward very thoughtfully and  
24 try to address the concerns of the addendum.

25       IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.



1           Comments or questions from the Council?

2           MARILYN BEARSLEE: Yes.

3           At our last meeting at Ridgecrest, we had  
4 talked about this, and both Sheri Davis and I were  
5 presently appointed to the committee. What happened  
6 with that?

7           MOLLY BRADY: Basically, we were not  
8 moving forward. If you have it, that will  
9 identified. That's terrific. When we do begin the  
10 discussions with the desert management groups, it  
11 will involve both of you.

12          IAN DAVIDSON: That will be the TRTs; is  
13 that right?

14          MOLLY BRADY: Well, since we're going  
15 with the Desert Management Group, I don't know what  
16 we would call it, but it would be in that form. You  
17 know, we would incorporate the Advisory Council  
18 members in that group, which would probably be  
19 another agency group.

20          IAN DAVIDSON: Other comments or  
21 questions?

22          IILENE ANDERSON: Yeah.

23          Molly, when's the next Desert Managers  
24 Meeting? Is that going to be an agenda item, then?

25          MOLLY BRADY: Absolutely. And it's in

1 December; is that right? Correct me if I'm wrong.

2           MARILYN BEARSLEE: December what?

3           MOLLY BRADY: I think it's December 5.

4 That may be -- let me check on that. I'll get back

5 to you.

6           IAN DAVIDSON: Comments or questions?

7           Buford.

8           BUFORD CRITES: Very quickly. I sat on

9 this group, and I looked at this issue maybe as much

10 as three or four years ago right after the

11 Forest Service began their Less-Than-Optimal Fee

12 Program. And we've looked at things, and so on and

13 so forth. And to me, the one thing that's striking

14 throughout the entire process is that there has never

15 been what I would consider the criticalness to say,

16 "Yes, this is a great idea; and out of the 5, 10, 15,

17 or 30 people that are here, all are willing to go out

18 and make this happen."

19           I think the issue of specific nonprofits

20 for a specific area of the California desert and fee

21 issues that have to do with campground or facilities

22 they were provided for people where there are

23 expenses, but I just still have never heard anybody

24 with the enthusiasm on doing this.

25           IAN DAVIDSON: Anyone else? I see none.

1           We will move on to our next agenda item,  
2 the Draft Recreation Fee District Policy. We'll have  
3 some discussion on this, and we will also have some  
4 Council action.

5           Ira.

6           IRA LONG: Good morning. At the  
7 Desert Hot Springs meeting, I heard it was requested  
8 by Mr. Denner and seconded by other Council members  
9 that the Bureau developed a policy. The purpose of  
10 the policy that you have in front of you is to  
11 develop a consistent approach calling for  
12 recreational fees. But let me give you a little  
13 background about how we got there.

14           It all started in 1993 with the Onion  
15 Budget Reconciliation Act. It allowed the Bureau a  
16 lot of flexibility.

17           Further, in 1996, with the appropriation,  
18 another amendment passed at that time, a conservation  
19 program. In that spring of 1996 and at that time --  
20 her son was our district manager -- we had a meeting  
21 in El Centro, and recreation fees almost ended. And  
22 the presentation was given by Elaine Briggs and also  
23 David Fender. And at that meeting before the Bureau  
24 for the California Desert District TRT input was  
25 needed.

1           And during that time four DAC members and  
2 four members of the general public were part of that  
3 TRT.

4           During that process, the TRT voted. One  
5 was that the nonprofit association could be developed  
6 for the desert; and, two, a business  
7 activity level for collection of fees.

8           So in 1999 our business plan was accepted  
9 by the Bureau of Land Management on the collection of  
10 fees. Also in 1999, during that process, during the  
11 process in which the Bureau accepted it, we went  
12 forward with it, and, actually, we had an offer for  
13 several months.

14          Further in 1999, the business plans for  
15 the DAC -- a presentation was given to the DAC on the  
16 business plan.

17          Several months later at a DAC meeting in  
18 Desert Hot Springs, Commissioner Denner and several  
19 of the DAC members stated that the business plans --  
20 they went forward. They wanted us to come forward  
21 with the Rec Fee policy calling for the institution  
22 of fees District-wide.

23          And so before you today is a Rec Fee  
24 policy that you have in your hand. We're allowed  
25 30 days to comment on the policy. Comments can be

1 given to Mr. Denner or other members of BLM, and  
2 thereafter, that the policy will come forward.

3 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you. Comments or  
4 questions from the Council?

5 ROY DENNER: I think we were both at the  
6 same meeting. When I went out to the meeting in  
7 Ridgecrest, my understanding of where we stood was  
8 that I indicated that I could not back any fee  
9 expansion program that did not have user input.

10 IRA LONG: Yes.

11 ROY DENNER: And it was agreed, as I  
12 understood it, that the BLM would solicit user input  
13 and the TRT would be continued with me as a member,  
14 and I would be a focal point for directing user input  
15 to the TRT relative to the fee expansion policy.  
16 That's not what the minutes say; that's not what you  
17 just said.

18 Now, I left that meeting believing that  
19 copies of the document were going to be distributed  
20 to the users that had requested them.

21 So, I mean, that's -- that's old -- I  
22 guess we can agree to disagree about what happened  
23 there, and we can get into a big contest about what  
24 was said and what wasn't said.

25 But getting to the point of this new

1 plan, I am still in a position where I will spurn any  
2 official fee program that does not have user  
3 input.

4 IRA LONG: On the current business plan  
5 that exists in the desert -- and we talked about  
6 that -- you know the Council members did not want  
7 that document to become policy. And Tim Salt said he  
8 understood that. What he said was in future plans --  
9 in future where we collect fees, greater user input  
10 would be given for the collection of fees.

11 ROY DENNER: I'm sorry. What was that  
12 last statement?

13 IRA LONG: In the future where we  
14 developed fees in Ridgecrest, in Barstow or  
15 wherever, the business plan will be the document that  
16 they develop. That's where you have your greatest  
17 input. The business plan that we currently have is  
18 just a how-to document.

19 ROY DENNER: The how-to plans -- see, you  
20 should have user input, as well. The specific --  
21 plan I know intend to have specific plans for  
22 specific areas to have user input. It seems to me  
23 the overall how-to document could also have user  
24 input.

25 IRA LONG: You're correct, Mr. Denner.

1 The one thing you were talking about at the last  
2 meeting, we accepted that document. We are still  
3 taking comments -- we took some statements that you  
4 made with that document, and we'll be taking more.

5 So that's kind of where we stand today.

6 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: So the answer was  
7 "no"?

8 IRA LONG: No, the answer is not "no."  
9 The answer is future plans will be developed, and we  
10 will make those plans concise and consistent.

11 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: So what about  
12 this plan?

13 IAN DAVIDSON: We won't be taking any  
14 comment from the audience at this point. People who  
15 speak out will be asked to leave the meeting.

16 The most important thing we are doing  
17 here today is, A, getting your input; and, B, getting  
18 through the agenda. We need to do that in an orderly  
19 fashion.

20 Any other comments or questions?

21 IRA LONG: I think that Roy's remembrance  
22 is certainly consistent with mine, and that before we  
23 go off to do a plan which will then generate baby  
24 plans, we'd better make sure that the  
25 planning efforts on that that we finally approve

1 on -- I was not sure that, at that last discussion  
2 that we had, at least on the Advisory Council, that  
3 they approved the idea, the concept, without further  
4 input.

5 IAN DAVIDSON: Any other comments,  
6 Council Members?

7 We have asked for action on this item,  
8 the 30-day comments. What we're seeking action on at  
9 this point is a 30-day-review comment period policy  
10 for implementation.

11 Buford, would that satisfy your concern  
12 on moving it up? And I'll pose the same question to  
13 Roy and everybody else in the room, if I understand  
14 the question.

15 ROY DENNER: If I understand your  
16 question, you are asking would 30 days cover the  
17 period for BLM to collect public input on this  
18 document be sufficient?

19 IRA LONG: I'm simply stating what the  
20 agenda has asked us to consider, and that is a 30-day  
21 comment period.

22 IAN DAVIDSON: Iilene?

23 IILENE ANDERSON: Yeah, I'm confused. Is  
24 this page and a half that document that's going to be  
25 submitted to the public for public comment?



1 IRA LONG: Yes, it is.

2 IAN DAVIDSON: Yes. This is 30 days?

3 IRA LONG: 30 days.

4 IAN DAVIDSON: That's what's before us.

5 We are looking for someone to make a

6 motion.

7 IILENE ANDERSON: Well, I'll definitely

8 make a motion to release this document to the public

9 for public comment. 30 days seems like a reasonable

10 timeline for a page-and-a-half document to be

11 submitted.

12 IAN DAVIDSON: Do we have a second on

13 that?

14 MARILYN BEARSLEE: I'll second.

15 IAN DAVIDSON: We have a motion and a

16 second. Like to discuss that? Any discussion?

17 Mr. Denner.

18 ROY DENNER: I did not think the size of

19 the document reflects the time period necessary to

20 review it. It's a matter of getting it out to

21 thousands of people who will be impacted by the

22 document.

23 So I still -- I still believe 30 days is

24 an unreasonably short period of time.

25 If you would make your motion to include

1 120 days, then, I'll vote for it.

2 IAN DAVIDSON: Iilene, we have a  
3 suggestion for a modified motion.

4 Buford.

5 BUFORD CRITES: I would move that we  
6 accept the comment period for -- as amended for 90  
7 days.

8 IAN DAVIDSON: Iilene.

9 IILENE ANDERSON: Yeah, 90 days. I amend  
10 my motion to 90 days.

11 IAN DAVIDSON: Do I have a second?

12 MARILYN BEARSLEE: I second the motion.

13 IAN DAVIDSON: Any further comments from  
14 the Council? I'll now call for the vote.

15 Please raise your hand, those who  
16 approve.

17 Those not in favor.

18 Carried unanimously. Thank you.

19 IAN DAVIDSON: Okay. That moves us to  
20 the morning part of the agenda.

21 Now, it's just a little bit after 10:00.

22 Based on the number of comment cards I have before  
23 me, essentially, we've got -- if everybody speaks for  
24 three minutes -- and some will speak less than that;  
25 we'll ask you to please limit it to three minutes --

1 we have two hours plus of comments.

2 Now, that will take us through the  
3 12 o'clock lunch hour. I will assume we're going to  
4 go past that. At this point I'm going to suggest  
5 that we take public comments and extend this period  
6 to 12:30, and we'll shorten our lunch and be back  
7 here at 1:30. So we'll have -- instead of an hour  
8 and a half lunch, we're going to cut it down to an  
9 hour.

10 At this point we won't be accepting any  
11 more speakers' cards that will be allowed to speak at  
12 this portion of the public comment period, but we do  
13 have another comment period later on in the  
14 afternoon. And that's more of a focus period on the  
15 Cadiz Project, but we'll probably have some comment  
16 time then, after that -- at the end of that.

17 I will, again, ask that -- I will take  
18 the speakers' cards. I will read your names. Please  
19 come down and use your three minutes.

20 Again, if you have a written comment or  
21 written letter, please just paraphrase the cards and  
22 enter them into the record.

23 If you have multiple copies for the  
24 Council Members, those will be distributed.

25 Again, we have a court reporter here.

1 You'll be asked to speak -- identify your name,  
2 yourself for the court reporter, and, please, where  
3 you're -- where you reside.

4 Buford.

5 BUFORD CRITES: I think it would be a  
6 good idea to call four people at a time. That way,  
7 it will give them time to get here from the back part  
8 of the room.

9 IAN DAVIDSON: That's a good idea. Okay.

10 All right. I'll take five at a time.  
11 I'll read those names. You can come on down and get  
12 ready to speak. Try to get through this as quickly  
13 as we can in an organized fashion.

14 Okay. The first five speakers --  
15 Keith Rosewitz, Vince Brunasso, Mark Harms,  
16 Justin Cole, and Alan Klump -- would those people  
17 please come down.

18 The first speaker will be  
19 Keith Rosewitz. Next speaker will be Vince Brunasso,  
20 followed by Mark Harms, Justin Cole, Alan Klump.

21 KEITH ROSEWITZ: Mr. Speaker, in the  
22 interest of the limited time we have, I yield my time  
23 to Vince Brunasso.

24 IAN DAVIDSON: You're Mr. Rosewitz?

25 KEITH ROSEWITZ: I'm Rosewitz.

1 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you very much, sir.

2 Mr. Brunasso.

3 VINCE BRUNASSO: I am Vince Brunasso. I'm

4 President of American Sand Association.

5 (Applause.)

6 Thank you. But like Roy said, it's not a

7 popularity contest.

8 Just want to make it brief and quick how

9 disappointed I am that a lawsuit can disrupt normal

10 flow of business in the government where the

11 majority is supposed to rule and where a piece of

12 Americana can be taken away as we stand here. And I

13 thank you for your time.

14 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

15 Mark Harms. Mark Harms?

16 Justin Cole.

17 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: Mark Harms yields

18 his time to Justin Cole.

19 JUSTIN COLE: Good day, members of the

20 DAC. Can you guys hear me? Good day, members of the

21 DAC. My name is Justin Cole. I reside in

22 San Diego, California. I'm a board member to the

23 San Diego Off-road Coalition, as well as a

24 representative of the San Diego Off-roaders to the

25 Technical Review Team in Imperial County.

1 I am also working with the BLM on their  
2 grant TRT to revise management strategies. So  
3 needless to say, my interest in this issue is  
4 substantial.

5 I have a few issues I just would like to  
6 address to the members of DAC, one being that I have  
7 do agree with Roy's statement that there is no  
8 mitigation allowed for rock hunters,  
9 recreationalists, hikers -- anything. There's no  
10 mitigation for people that ride quads, people who  
11 ride dune buggies, people who like to collect rocks,  
12 mining. There is nothing for us as a species. We  
13 are, indeed, a species that is being extinct.

14 So I definitely would recommend to the  
15 members, if you could, bring this up as a later  
16 agenda item to get something in there that says, if  
17 you're going to close down an area, you need to look  
18 at the impact of that area.

19 Regarding the lawsuit, as a comment and  
20 just as an off-roader, I'm deeply offended by what  
21 has happened. I look at being employed by an  
22 off-road company, and there's many off-road companies  
23 here today that will be substantially impacted by  
24 this closure.

25 Imperial County is going to be

1 substantially impacted by their closure. And I  
2 really feel that you members, as an Advisory Council,  
3 really need to stress the importance to the BLM, and  
4 I do want to thank Mike Pool for being here today.

5 Finally, after all these years,  
6 off-roaders are going to unite, and we really want to  
7 see things happen.

8 I would like to comment on El Centro's  
9 field office. They do an outstanding job. We  
10 finally have great leadership in that office, and  
11 just the cooperation between that office and the  
12 off-roaders is substantial. And I would like to  
13 thank the BLM for getting people in there that are  
14 working with the off-road community on several issues  
15 and who are very supportive of us out there in the  
16 sand dunes. Thank you.

17 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you very much.

18 Alan Klump. Alan Klump?

19 ALAN KLUMP: I'd like to thank the  
20 Council for the opportunity to speak. There are some  
21 very important issues before us today, as you can  
22 tell by the crowd here. We're all interested this.

23 As far as the OHV management strategy, I  
24 was kind of disappointed to see that we did not get  
25 the mitigation thing into the plan, or at least a

1 vote of support to have some type of mitigation in  
2 the plan. I do think that's very important.

3 As has been said over and over again, we  
4 are just continually losing and losing and losing  
5 more land for our sport while it's becoming even more  
6 popular every day. More people are getting  
7 involved. The number of SUVs sold every day is  
8 increasing. This is good people who like to get in  
9 and drive their vehicles and enjoy the outdoors.  
10 With less opportunity to do that, that's going to  
11 negatively affect the population as a whole.

12 So I do hope you'll reconsider that when  
13 this plan is actually released and comment -- it's  
14 time to comment on it.

15 Second of all, the Dunes closures. I  
16 guess you heard how quiet it got when Molly made her  
17 announcement a little while ago about the area's  
18 going to be closed. I'm hoping that this closure  
19 will be temporary, that the BLM does the studies that  
20 need to be done, can see that the off-road vehicles  
21 really are not causing any harmful effect out there.  
22 I mean, we've been out there for 40 or 50 years. The  
23 plan is still there.

24 From what I've heard on some preliminary  
25 studies, the plan is actually doing well. Maybe it's



1 doing better now than it ever has before. Maybe the  
2 vehicle -- off-road people are enhancing the plants'  
3 environment. Could that be true? I think it could.

4

5 I would also like to ask a favor of all  
6 the off-roaders here that we comply with the  
7 closures. It's going to be very, very important to  
8 continuing to use the Dunes area. This actually  
9 applies to any kind of closure. Please respect those  
10 closures. By disrespecting them and going into  
11 closed areas, we're just hurting ourselves. So  
12 please keep that in mind.

13 I've also handed in written comments.  
14 They pretty well summarize this, and, again,  
15 thank you for your time.

16 IAN DAVIDSON: All right. Our next group  
17 of speakers of five will start out with Keith Davis,  
18 Jeri Ferguson, Erik Anderson, Susan Terrell, and  
19 Wayne Mooradian, please.

20 Keith Davis.

21 KEITH DAVIS: Thank you. My name is  
22 Keith Davis. I have resided in Chino Valley,  
23 Arizona. I grew up in La Jolla, and I've been  
24 enjoying our Deserts in California --  
25 California/Arizona deserts for the last 43 years,

1 since my parents have been taking me out there.

2 I have a "shame on me" for allowing this

3 to get to where it is today because I've sat back and

4 I have watched the closure of Coyote Canyon and

5 Old Creek Canyon and the Anza Borrego Desert. I've

6 sat back and watched the Dunes at Glamis get closed,

7 thinking that it would never affect me. And so I say

8 shame on me for that.

9 But today I will make a difference. I

10 will join every club. I will support every effort to

11 reopen the Dunes and make the recreation areas out

12 there for the people and -- instead of for the

13 plants.

14 I recognize that there are some

15 environmental issues and some problems with the

16 crowds that are out in the deserts, and I fully

17 support any of the BLM's efforts to get those taken

18 care of and cleaned up.

19 I've heard some very disturbing reports

20 out there. I've not been witness to them. I do not

21 participate in the nighttime activity where the

22 vermin hang out and cause all the trouble. But I do

23 go out there with my family, and I do go into the

24 areas that you're considering closing. And I do take

25 my three- and four- and five-year-old children out

1 there and teach them how to drive sand carts. We  
2 learn about the environment. We camp together as a  
3 family. We enjoy family time together. We work 50,  
4 60 hours --

5 (Applause.)

6 We work 50-, 60-hour weeks in order to  
7 afford to be able to go out to those sand dunes and  
8 do that for our families, and it's a big effort on  
9 our part.

10 And all I can tell you is I feel like the  
11 lobster who was put in cold water and then put on the  
12 burner. I realize now the water is boiling, and look  
13 out because I'm going to support every effort to  
14 reopen these areas that have been closed by people  
15 out in Washington D.C. and people in San Francisco,  
16 California, that have no idea who I am, what I do,  
17 and anything about my family.

18 And I'm an American, and I deserve --

19 (Applause.)

20 You're eating up my three minutes.

21 -- I deserve this time with my family.

22 I've earned it. I pay taxes for it, and I can hardly  
23 wait for a new administration to get into  
24 Washington.

25 (Applause.)

1 All I can say about the Department of the  
2 Interior is I hope they fumigate that office when I  
3 leave.

4 I believe Mr. Denner's efforts there need  
5 to be well recognized, and I will support you and all  
6 are of your efforts to help us. I appreciate that  
7 more than you'll ever know.

8 I have a little --

9 IAN DAVIDSON: Sir, your time is running  
10 out quickly.

11 KEITH DAVIS: It got clapped up.

12 What happens in the desert -- and I don't  
13 know if any of you participated in the desert, but  
14 I've been going there for 43 years, and these sand  
15 dunes that you're going to protect change on a good  
16 windy weekend, and I don't know where that plant is  
17 that we're trying to protect, but I'm sure it gets  
18 buried and unburied in the sand that moves, from time  
19 to time, as the wind blows. And when the Old Canyon  
20 and Coyote Canyon were closed, I was there for the  
21 flash floods that completely changed the  
22 configuration of it.

23 It's not off-landers that are tearing  
24 this up. It's the environment. Talk to God because  
25 if you think you can change God's plan --

1 (Applause.)

2 -- if you think you can really impact

3 God's plan, I've got news for you, you can't.

4 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

5 Jeri Ferguson. Jeri Ferguson.

6 JERI FERGUSON: My name is Jeri Ferguson.

7 I'm the representative for California Association of

8 4-Wheel-Drives.

9 I wanted to make this record that our

10 Association is calling for the settlement of the

11 lawsuit.

12 We -- especially when -- and I want to

13 make this distinction that it was Washington, D.C.,

14 the solicitor for BLM, the lawyer for BLM, not the

15 field offices, that made this decision.

16 When he went up to the court and pled no

17 contest, that meant none of the studies or any

18 biological studies that have been done since 1977, or

19 since they began doing the studies, were even

20 presented to court to even show how much Peirson's

21 milk vetch was in that area.

22 That does us a great disservice. He

23 needs to be accountable for his actions because he

24 did not represent the BLM.

25 Again, I want to stress, like somebody

1 else did, for us to go into the closure area would  
2 just hurt us more than anything. You guys really  
3 need to do this.

4 It is a court decision; so it can be  
5 appealed. And I'm sure the American Sand Association  
6 will help out the coalition and Blue Ribbon, and all  
7 these groups will be looking into that.

8 So just hang tight and let's work  
9 together. Thank you.

10 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

11 Erik Anderson.

12 ERIK ANDERSON: My name is Erik Anderson.  
13 I'm from Fallbrook, California. I've been going to  
14 the Dunes now for about 15 years, and I've seen a lot  
15 taken away in the years, but I've never seen anything  
16 gained back, and it's kind of sad because we're not  
17 only losing the recreation of the desert, we're  
18 losing the recreation of the rivers, the forest, and  
19 everything else.

20 And these constant fee implementation  
21 programs are going to need to work for us. If we are  
22 going to use these fee programs, we need to receive  
23 something.

24 I -- I would like to see some  
25 representation from the BLM beginning a process to

1 reopen some of the Dunes in some of the area. I  
2 think Mammoth Wash was -- some of the north side,  
3 some of the camping areas that were closed because of  
4 the S-21 Bill, I think those were ridiculous. You've  
5 condensed us down to such a small area, that you've  
6 increased the accidents; you've increased everything  
7 that was -- what we're against -- the trash and  
8 everything else.

9 I just would like to say that I hope that  
10 the BLM will stand up and represent us to reopen some  
11 of these lands.

12 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

13 Susan Terrell, please.

14 SUSAN TERRELL: Thank you for letting me  
15 talk to you here today. I'm Susan Terrell from Brea,  
16 California. I just want to say I'm just a mom. I'm  
17 a member of Sand Pirates Club. It's been in  
18 existence for about 30 years.

19 We've helped the rangers at different  
20 times out at the Dunes. We've helped the rangers out  
21 in the Imperial Sand Dunes area locate lost duners  
22 and help them, and we've brought them back to camp  
23 many times.

24 We are usually out there for the entire  
25 month of November, and I just wanted to tell you a

1 little bit about my family.

2       We're four girls -- I have four daughters  
3 and a wonderful man that takes care of us and starts  
4 all of our equipment. We camp; we dune; we love to  
5 be out there during the time that we get to be out  
6 there. And I wanted to talk about quality time that  
7 it allows us.

8       If we go to movies, we all just kind of  
9 sit there in the dark, and we don't really  
10 participate; or if we go to the beach, we're  
11 distracted and we're out playing around. But when we  
12 go to the Dunes, we're so close together 'cause we're  
13 all camping together. We all camp together in the  
14 same vehicle. We all have to interact with each  
15 other, and we get to learn from each other about  
16 everything. And I get to teach my kids about the  
17 environment. They get to go to the Ranger's Station  
18 and pick up information and bring it back and teach  
19 me about conservation efforts and that sort of stuff.  
20 We talk about the way people behave or misbehave.

21       And it's just a really great learning  
22 experience for us. My girls are now 16, 15, 12,  
23 and -- sorry -- 13 and 11.

24       And we're all better now. And we get to  
25 see how it is to be real people out in the world.



1           This is the only chance that we get during  
2 the year to go and be together. And so I think that  
3 the closure of these dunes is really a  
4 stress on family life. Okay? If you take that away  
5 from us and we don't get to go, my kids are just  
6 going to grow up without me.

7           So anyways, that's about it. I just  
8 wanted to say the real -- balance is the key. I  
9 think that that issue of mitigation is -- is where  
10 we're at with this. If we had balance in this thing,  
11 then, we wouldn't all be standing up here. We would  
12 just be applauding in the background.

13          So thank you for your time.

14          IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

15          Wayne Mooradian, please.

16          WAYNE MOORADIAN: Thank you for the  
17 opportunity to speak. The Center for Biological  
18 Diversity has sued the BLM. It's clear that  
19 diversity is not on their agenda. They intend to  
20 continue the harassment of the off-road highway  
21 vehicle community and the Government to close more  
22 recreation areas.

23          As a citizen, I'm outraged by the lawsuit  
24 and look forward to its defeat in court. Obviously,  
25 it hasn't happened yet. The suit should be thrown

1 out of court as groundless.

2           It appears to me that the lawsuit it  
3 unconstitutional and in violation of the First,  
4 Ninth, and Fourteenth Amendments of the  
5 Constitution.

6           And I also believe that they have  
7 committed an antitrust violation by monopolizing  
8 land-use issues. Land use has never been their goal.

9           Furthermore, they have never, to my  
10 knowledge, ever filed an environmental impact report  
11 describing the economics effects on the public, the  
12 business community, and the Government from any of  
13 their actions.

14           (Applause.)

15           The litigiousness of the  
16 environmentalists -- it's an irrational belief that  
17 only their way is acceptable -- is evidence that the  
18 Constitution and our rights are meaningless to them.  
19 Their agenda must be rejected to preserve our  
20 American heritage and liberty and freedom for all.

21           When they sue the Government, they are  
22 suing all of us as citizens; we are the Government.  
23 Our founding fathers would not let this stand, nor  
24 should we.

25           We all have the right to voice our

1 opinions. The difference between us is we don't want  
2 to exclude anyone from use.

3 Environmentalists have chose to mess with  
4 the United States on several issues. The time has  
5 come to reject the philosophy and return it to the  
6 citizens, their inalienable rights.

7 On civil rights, we all have the right to  
8 use the public lands. So much has been taken away,  
9 8.1 million alone by the 1994 passage of the  
10 S-21 Bill; yet more confiscation is desirable.

11 When these environmentalists don't get  
12 their way, they have been known to sabotage or,  
13 worse, without regard to human life. We in the  
14 off-road community have had civil rights violated. We  
15 must not let this stand or continue.

16 With the antitrust issues, the continued  
17 battle to coexist in public land use is not what the  
18 environmentalists want. They want total control to  
19 lock the off-highway vehicle community out.

20 This is a clear antitrust violation and  
21 exhibits the land-use monopoly, which has gone on for  
22 decades. Now is when it must end. We will fight for  
23 our right to use the land. We will see you in the  
24 sand.

25 (Applause.)

1 Couple other points, too --

2 IAN DAVIDSON: Your time is rapidly  
3 approaching.

4 WAYNE MOORADIAN: All right. With  
5 regards to mitigation to Mr. Crites and Mr. Ervin,  
6 off-highway vehicle users, it's belated that we've  
7 lost all these rights to use these lands and --  
8 millions of acres without mitigation to off-highway  
9 vehicle use. I wish you'd reconsider your vote  
10 earlier today and consider giving us mitigation.  
11 It's linked, it's belated, and it should have been  
12 given to us in the beginning. It was overlooked at  
13 that time.

14 Any land-use closure is a concern to  
15 off-highway vehicle users, and I want Isabella and  
16 Mr. Reddy to know that. We don't want any of your  
17 rights taken. We don't want to close any of your  
18 lands. We want everybody's land to be open.

19 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you. I'm going to  
20 call for the next group of speakers. Those speakers  
21 are Eddy Del Signore, Tom Tammone, Dan McCarthy, and  
22 Jim McGarvie.

23 EDDY DEL SIGNORE: Thank you for the  
24 opportunity to speak with you today. Again, my name  
25 is Eddy Del Signore, and I'm from Torrance,

1 California.

2 I came out here today, and I'm sure my  
3 team will probably be reoccurring throughout the rest  
4 of the day here in regards to shutting down the  
5 Dunes.

6 It's already been said that it is a  
7 wonderful time to spend with your family. In my  
8 current job assignment, very rarely do I ever get to  
9 eat dinner with my children.

10 As a result of going out to Glamis, we're  
11 able to sit in the camper. We're able to cook  
12 dinner. We're able to sit by a fire. I'm actually  
13 able to walk my children down to the canal. And we  
14 look at the little tracks in the sand, and we try to  
15 identify what creature created those tracks.

16 We also look at the flowers as we go down  
17 there, and as a result of this, with my three  
18 children, one of them will not even let me keep a  
19 flyswatter in the house.

20 We go out and we capture butterflies. He  
21 has earned a respect for the environment, and I think  
22 most of the people here have a very high respect for  
23 that.

24 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

25 Tom Tammone.

1           TOM TAMMONE: Hello. I'd like to first  
2 thank the BLM for accommodating us on this meeting.

3           I don't represent any groups. All my  
4 comments are my own. I just want to get that out up  
5 front.

6           I do a lot of volunteer work for the  
7 National Forest, and, frankly, I'm here because I'm  
8 tired of getting beat up on by -- by using the Forest  
9 and BLM.

10          Frankly, I keep telling everybody to come  
11 to these meetings. So I guess that's what we've got  
12 ourselves into. Now it's my turn to step up to the  
13 mike.

14          I want to say something else about that,  
15 too. As Roy said, this is not a popularity contest.  
16 If you noticed, when you're clapping, the lady up  
17 here that's taking the record, her hands aren't  
18 moving. So if you want your comment on record, you  
19 need to get up here and speak.

20          Couple of things. First of all, I want  
21 to say something about some of your comments. I find  
22 it particularly annoying that a group of people -- I  
23 don't even know what their qualifications or  
24 credentials are -- can spend a few dollars and file a  
25 lawsuit and cause all these people to give up their

1 Saturday to come up here and defend their rights.

2 I think it's a darn shame, and I think it  
3 is a tragedy. You think your family would be rolling  
4 in their graves right now if they saw us all out here  
5 having to do this today.

6 But, I've donated over a thousand hours  
7 here. I don't consider myself any kind of an  
8 eco-terrorist. If there is a legitimate concern,  
9 I'm the first guy out there telling everybody why  
10 they can use a particular route.

11 But, frankly, I find it kind of hard to  
12 believe -- I'm getting a little bit nervous. I'm not  
13 a professional speaker. But I find it hard to  
14 believe that there are plants that can only exist in  
15 OHV areas.

16 (Applause.)

17 You know, this goes to all you out there,  
18 and my brothers in my area just want to throw this  
19 out there, too, but I support the miners. I heard  
20 everybody. We're in the same situation as far as  
21 that acre-per-acre land use. There's only so much  
22 you can do.

23 So that's the only problem with the  
24 acre-to-acre proposal. Other than that, it is a good  
25 idea.

1 I know on some of the issues out in the  
2 forest, we've usually done a two-for-one when we've  
3 done land changes. So if we're going to do a  
4 land-for-land, let's make it two acres or every one  
5 acre.

6 You notice nobody wants to breathe bad  
7 air. We all want to have good clean air for our kids  
8 to breathe. Let's have some common sense on these  
9 environmental issue.

10 How do you guys like the gas prices? I  
11 paid \$1.79 for gas this morning. You guys happy with  
12 that?

13 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: Well, that's  
14 cheap.

15 EDDY DEL SIGNORE: Well, that's cheap,  
16 yeah.

17 Anyway, we have enough of a national  
18 emergency in this country where we have to tap a  
19 strategic nation's oil reserves, and we have a  
20 President that has such dire environmental concerns  
21 that he can't open up oil in his country. What is up  
22 with that? You know, will someone explain that to  
23 me.

24 Al Gore is going to Washington. You  
25 got -- he got mad. He goes, "You call me and tell



1 me." How do you -- you say it's not political  
2 capping oil reserve. How are we going to put this  
3 oil back? Why don't we lift the amount of the oil  
4 and let people sell it at fair market value so we  
5 have our fun and get low gas mileage, low gas prices,  
6 good stock markets, and enjoy life as Americans.

7 IAN DAVIDSON: Sir, your time is up.

8 EDDY DEL SIGNORE: Thank you.

9 IAN DAVIDSON: Next speaker.

10 DAN McCARTHY: Good morning. My name  
11 is Dan McCarthy. I'm one of the founders of the  
12 Dirt Devils of Southern California.

13 IAN DAVIDSON: Please, I just want to say  
14 for everybody to please speak slowly and clearly so  
15 you can help the court reporter out.

16 DAN McCARTHY: Good morning. My name  
17 is Dan McCarthy. I'm one of the founders of the  
18 Dirt Devils of Southern California.

19 One of our goals as a four-wheel-drive  
20 club is education. Introducing four-wheelers to  
21 tread-lightly programs. We use the Mojave as a  
22 training ground for beginners of four-wheelers to  
23 make sure they're educated correctly on how to drive  
24 on trails, and so forth.

25 We also utilize quite a few trails in

1 San Bernardino. About two-thirds of the club -- of  
2 my club members are volunteers in the San Bernardino  
3 National Forest. We put back a lot into our  
4 community, where arrangements are made. We're doing  
5 it for free. We're paying our own gas to do it.

6 Other point that is being missed here is  
7 that there is a lot of rich history out there that's  
8 going to be covered up or ignored. We have  
9 the right to see it. We have the right to see the  
10 Pinto Mountains covered with snow. We have a right  
11 too see the different canyons, also Mojave Road.

12 We take people out to these trails. We're  
13 showing them the rocks, we're showing 'em the  
14 plantlife, and we're showing them the wildlife. We  
15 are educating these people. We should have the right  
16 to do that.

17 BLM land is also an economical way for a  
18 family to camp. We're not stuck in very expensive  
19 private parks or an expensive State park. We can  
20 utilize the lands very economically.

21 And I guess in closing, I'd like to say I  
22 vote. And I'm sure everybody else is able to vote,  
23 too; so please keep that in mind.

24 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

25 Daniel Canhart.

1 Jim McGarvie.

2 JIM McGARVIE: Good morning. My name is  
3 Jim McGarvie, and I'm Chairman of the  
4 San Diego Off-Road Coalition. I'd like to thank the  
5 Council for the opportunity to speak this morning.

6 I'd like to welcome Mike Pool in his new  
7 position, and I look forward to working with him in  
8 the future.

9 I have already questioned your sense of  
10 timing. You probably could have picked a better  
11 meeting.

12 MIKE POOL: It was the right meeting.

13 (Applause.)

14 JIM McGARVIE: I would also like to thank  
15 the 500-plus of you off-roaders who showed up today.  
16 I appreciate that. I know it is a major sacrifice  
17 for most of you. It's high time this has occurred  
18 and all of us in leadership positions in --  
19 throughout the State really appreciate your being  
20 here.

21 I especially want to thank -- I'm  
22 starting to sound like I just won an Oscar. I  
23 especially want to thank Roy Denner for his tireless  
24 efforts. It's largely because of Roy that we are  
25 here.

1 (Applause.)

2 I'm going to confine my comment this  
3 morning to the lawsuit. I think that's probably the  
4 bulk of the interest here.

5 As was mentioned earlier, San Diego  
6 Off-Road Coalition is one of parties that joined in  
7 with Blue Ribbon Coalition to intervene in the  
8 lawsuit.

9 As such, I had the dubious distinction of  
10 being present on September 18 at the first settlement  
11 conference. I want to tell you that it was not very  
12 pretty. It's kind of like a sausage. You really  
13 don't want to know how it's made.

14 Now that the agreement has been signed,  
15 we can say some things we were not allowed to say, or  
16 it was recommended that we not say before now.

17 I think it's -- my comments are addressed  
18 as much to the audience as these are to the Council.

19 The -- when we walked into that courtroom  
20 on the morning of September 18 in San Francisco, the  
21 first cat out of the bag was that the  
22 Plaintiff's environmentalists intended to close  
23 The Imperial Sand Dunes from just south of  
24 Rollor Camp (phonetic) to the Mexican border.

25 The BLM representatives there argued long

1 and hard. In my view they did a good job with  
2 negotiating. They had a counter-proposal.

3       We as intervenors had some thoughts of  
4 our own, as you might imagine. But it was a long,  
5 incomparable day, but at the end of the day, there  
6 was a tentative agreement, which didn't make any of  
7 us happy. That's a sign of a good negotiation --  
8 nobody's pleased with it.

9       I was probably the least pleased of  
10 anyone because the proposal closed far earlier than  
11 you or I would consider appropriate and the current  
12 final proposal is still there.

13       I want to stress a couple points.  
14 Roy made one. The intervenors -- that's the San  
15 Diego Off-Road Coalition, Blue Ribbon Coalition,  
16 Cal. Four-Wheel-Drive Coalition, and the  
17 Desert Vipers -- have not and will not sign this  
18 agreement.

19       Well, thanks. But that's mostly for  
20 public relations' benefit. Unfortunately, popularity  
21 is not going to win the vote. We need to get to the  
22 point, but it's not the final word.

23       There are options available to us, and  
24 those options would include at least two outstanding  
25 firms now looking into the situation this evening.

1 I want to stress the point that  
2 Jeri Ferguson of Cal. Four-Wheel-Drive and the BLM  
3 continually promoting a lower level. They are not  
4 our enemy. This is not the BLM's fault that this  
5 happened, at least not in the field office.

6 I was in the courtroom. I heard and saw  
7 Tim Salt of the BLM and various solicitors negotiate  
8 with the Plaintiffs. It's not an easy job. And I  
9 think, under the circumstances that they were put in,  
10 was largely beyond their control. I think they  
11 did the best job they could, or we could hope for, in  
12 that situation.

13 I want to echo Alan Klump's statement,  
14 which I think is critically important: that as mad as  
15 we are all about this, that we honor those barriers.

16 If you were the Plaintiffs and you were  
17 the environmentalists and/or if you were the Judge in  
18 this case, what would your reaction be if the  
19 closures were not honored? If significant trespass  
20 occurred in the closed area, that does not leave them  
21 with an option.

22 I understand that after the comment  
23 period is over, there will be maps available outside  
24 showing the closure areas. It will remain open as  
25 long as anybody is interested. They'll come talk to

1 us.

2 Thank you very much.

3 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

4 I'll just take this opportunity to tell

5 everyone that at the 12:30 lunch break,

6 Greg Thompson from the BLM will be available in this

7 room to brief everyone, answer questions on

8 Imperial Sand Dunes issues.

9 At 1:30, when we reconvene the meeting,

10 we'll be outside to continue those discussion for

11 anyone who's interested.

12 Another housekeeping chore, if you have

13 not signed in, please sign in so we know who is all

14 here and we can get a head count. Thank you.

15 The next --

16 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: Where?

17 IAN DAVIDSON: There's a sign-in sheet

18 out front, if I'm not mistaken, and one going around.

19 It's --

20 Would you raise your hand.

21 -- down at that end and one over here.

22 So there's several. So please find those and sign

23 it. Thank you.

24 Our next group of speakers, first off is

25 Jason Bunch, Larry Latlaye, Rick Alexander,

1 Meg Grossglass, and Dave Konstantin.

2 JASON BUNCH: Thank you for letting me  
3 speak. First off, my name is Jason Bunch. I'm 31  
4 years of driving all kinds of vehicles off-road.

5 First, I want to talk about my family. We  
6 used to -- my whole family, my mother, father, and  
7 all that stuff -- would go to Pismo Beach, and we  
8 watched the decline of that get close, close,  
9 closures. So we stop going there. Well, now my  
10 daughters are 12 and 14, never saw Pismo Beach, which  
11 is pretty hard for us to deal with.

12 The other thing is, we talked about  
13 Glamis. We've lost the other side of Highway 78,  
14 where we used to camp and keep out of the crowds and  
15 have places for our kids, our ATCs, and let them run  
16 around and all that stuff in the bigger  
17 vehicles.

18 You know, you guys closed that area.  
19 Is there no weed over there? Did anyone look?  
20 That's kind of an issue there.

21 I also own a four-wheel-drive shop, and I  
22 employ 15 employees. What are we going to do? I'm  
23 sure there's a lot of other off-road people here that  
24 make their living in the off-road community  
25 that -- you know, we're going to lose something



1 here.

2 Back to that lawsuit, I mean, who at the  
3 BLM is doing their job to let this thing go on?  
4 You know, I think their butts ought to be fired for  
5 something like that. And I believe that we -- 'cause  
6 of this suit, I think you jerked the tail of the  
7 tiger, and I hope all the people that are here tell  
8 their friends and start putting money and everything  
9 that we can do to stop this suit.

10 Second, I'm tired of being a nice guy,  
11 "Oh, let's do this. Let's do this." So I'm really  
12 not sure where I stand on obeying the rights of that  
13 land that we just lost. Thank you.

14 IAN DAVIDSON: Please state your name.

15 LARRY LATLAYE: Larry Latlaye. I live in  
16 El Cajon.

17 And Mr. Pool, welcome to  
18 Southern California. I'm glad you're here, and all  
19 of you guys who volunteer your time, and your own  
20 private time. You come here because you believe in  
21 something. That's what makes America wonderful, and  
22 I appreciate you all being here very much.

23 I'm a member of the largest group of  
24 dune riders in Southern California. That's the  
25 Independent Rider. And I'm sorry for that now. That

1 was a mistake. We need to be a coalition, to get  
2 involved a lot more. And I'm going to be doing that,  
3 and I'll be -- I have hundreds and hundreds of  
4 friends that ride who are Independents, that also are  
5 Independents. They'll be here.

6 35 years ago, when was 15 years old, I  
7 went on one of the most greatest trips of my life.  
8 It was a father-son drive from Mammoth to Buttecrup.  
9 It took us all day long, and we had people gas us up  
10 along the way. And you see on the map? It's that  
11 entire section. That was something I'll never, ever  
12 forget.

13 Now my kids who are 26 and 24 because of  
14 the closures around the southern Mammoth Wash areas,  
15 we were not able to do that. That's okay. Life goes  
16 on. Now it's getting worse.

17 A few years ago, my wife, who had never  
18 been to Split Mountain off of TOLs, just before they  
19 closed it, I said, "Honey, you've got to see this  
20 place. It is the most awesome place."

21 So we got on our quads and slowly rode  
22 through Split Mountain. A week later, of course, it  
23 was closed. We can't do that anymore, but she got to  
24 see it one time. We have pictures on our walls  
25 of her riding through Split Mountain, and I'm sorry

1 we can't do it anymore, but life goes on.

2       It looks like this year we are going to  
3 have Thanksgiving a week early because we've been  
4 camping for, gosh, 15, 20 years at Five-Mile Drop and  
5 we ride the Patton Valley area up to China Wall.  
6 We're going to have Thanksgiving a week early this  
7 year because that will be the last time.

8       We will fly the checkered flag. We will  
9 support the new laws, but I'm going to say one thing  
10 about the people behind me here and thousands of  
11 others who have been paying DMV fees, interest fees,  
12 we've been paying these fees forever, guys, we're  
13 going to have to dig a little deeper because this  
14 litigation to open that sand dune area back up is  
15 going to cost some money. You're going to have to  
16 dig back in your wallet again, and we're going to do  
17 it.

18       IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

19       Rick Alexander.

20       RICK ALEXANDER: Good morning, Ladies and  
21 Gentlemen.

22       I'm the third generation Californian,  
23 third generation off-road. My kids are the fourth  
24 generation. My grandkids are going to be fifth.  
25 Okay.

1           Is it just -- the population grows, and  
2 we bring them. Okay. We're from up in the  
3 Los Angeles area. We used to ride to  
4 San Clarita Valley. It closed down. We moved up to  
5 Palmdale. It closed down. Just kept closing,  
6 closing, closing.

7           But the money continues to mow down the  
8 mountains, regardless of what weed grows here. It's  
9 the money that matters.

10          Okay. I would like to know, number one,  
11 the BLM thinks that they're coming up on the  
12 regulations of what we're going have to abide by the  
13 Federal Government. What it boils down to is this is  
14 our land. It's all of our land. You cannot lend it  
15 access for anybody anywhere because it's our land.

16          Everybody respects the environment. For  
17 anybody here to say that you don't respect the  
18 environment is ludicrous. It's absolutely ludicrous

19          And I've been going down to the sand  
20 dunes for 15 years; my kids grew up there. My  
21 neighbors are here with us. We started them going.  
22 We love it. We camp down near the Aqueduct, whoseever  
23 familiar with that area. We usually do three to four  
24 annual trips to Mexico, to El Cajon. We ride right  
25 through the middle of those dunes. You don't think

1 that upsets us?

2           So the milk vetch, where is it growing?

3 It grows on the outside of the Dunes. It grows in  
4 the valley of the Dunes.

5           Where do we ride? We ride in the Dunes.

6 Everybody is aware of vegetation. We don't run over  
7 the vegetation. We like it. We love the plants.

8           There's an area of Pala Verde trees. As a  
9 matter of fact, we planted -- I think we planted  
10 eight Palo Verde trees because of Glamis, but we love  
11 them.

12           There's an area of Palo Verde on the way  
13 to Porterville that I'm sure that everybody that  
14 rides down there is aware of. And they were in bloom  
15 the last we were there in the spring, and they were  
16 in full bloom, and it was absolutely beautiful,  
17 absolutely beautiful.

18           So for anybody to say that we don't love  
19 the vegetation, we want to take care of it, too,  
20 because we love it, too. And we love our dunes.  
21 We love our dunes. It's a big part of us. So --  
22 thank you.

23           IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

24           Would you give your name for the record.

25           MEG GROSSGLASS: My name is

1 Meg Grossglass, and I am from the San Diego Off-Road  
2 Coalition, and I have several things I want to bring  
3 up today.

4 I'm a little bit disappointed that you  
5 guys did not vote for any type of mitigation  
6 whatsoever, and I wanted to remind the members that  
7 this is an OHV Management Plan.

8 It's not necessarily we don't care about  
9 the rock climbers or the mining or anything, but I  
10 think Roy's point was that within the OHV Management  
11 Plan, we wanted mitigation. I don't think that he  
12 meant that we were going to take anything away from  
13 the minerals or the rocks or mining. I do not know  
14 if that got lost somewhere. We want mitigation.

15 And I didn't see anything in the OHV Plan  
16 to open any new areas. And there's more of us.  
17 We're getting forced into smaller areas, therefore,  
18 causing more danger to us.

19 But we don't seem to be very important  
20 here; only the plants. We like the plants; we  
21 appreciate the plants. We need to have some sort of  
22 importance here, also.

23 I also think there should be much more  
24 user input on the user fees. We've got taxes. We  
25 have got fees. We are paying more now than we have

1 ever paid, and we have less and less areas. It's

2 incredible.

3       And I do want to tell everyone here that

4 this is a family sport. We all go out with our

5 families. I think that's lost. I think they think

6 we all go out there to destroy things. We don't do

7 that. We go out there to enjoy our family. Very

8 important.

9       And to everyone out there, please vote

10 Republican.

11       Thank you for letting me speak. Sorry.

12       DAVE KONSTANTIN: Hi. My name is

13 Dave Konstantin. I am a business representative from

14 the San Diego Off-Road Coalition.

15       I echo a lot of things people have said

16 here today. I want to say that I have been out there

17 with three generations of my family. We sit down, we

18 have fire, and we turn the TV off. It is a family

19 sport.

20       My 13-year-old daughter enjoys hanging

21 out with me, which, I believe, is pretty unusual.

22       She respects the rangers. When I was 13,

23 I thought that the rangers were the enemy.

24       When we see trash, she stops on the trail

25 and picks it up. And these are the --

1           (Applause.)

2           These are the people, the off-roaders of  
3 the future. These are the people. But it's looking  
4 to me more and more like there's not going to be  
5 places for those people to recreate in their chosen  
6 sport.

7           And I really want to encourage you guys  
8 who are volunteers -- and I appreciate that -- to  
9 take our sport into consideration and give us a place  
10 to recreate so we don't go postal.

11          Studies show, if you take enough rats and  
12 cram them into a small place, they will go off.  
13 And we don't want to go off. We want to get out in  
14 the wilderness and blow off some steam.

15          The other point I want to make is that I  
16 spent probably \$5,000 in this off season maintaining  
17 and upgrading my vehicles, and that money has gone to  
18 off-road shops in the San Diego area. And the  
19 San Diego Off-Road Coalition is very concerned about  
20 what businesses are going to do once ours is extinct,  
21 and we really need your help.

22          Thanks.

23          IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

24          And now we'll have our next five  
25 speakers, starting out with Dee Stapp,



1 Michael Rodriguez -- Alan Klump is a duplicate, so --

2 Terry Allen, D. J. Corroso, and Samantha Morsch.

3 DEE STAPP: My name is Dee Stapp, and I

4 represent Public Lands for the People, and I reside

5 in San Bernardino, California.

6 On March 16 -- and, please, listen to the

7 dates that I say here.

8 On March 16, 2000, the Center for

9 Biological Diversity and the Sierra Club and a couple

10 of other groups filed suit against BLM.

11 The Center alleged that BLM failed to

12 consult with U.S Fish and Wildlife Service in the

13 preparation of the 1980 California Conservation

14 Area Plan, the CDCA, and demanded that recreational

15 activities be enjoined.

16 On July 20, 2000, the Center moved for

17 summary judgment based upon BLM's admission, upon

18 BLM's Answer to the Complaint, that they had not

19 consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in

20 the preparation of the CDCA.

21 This motion was opposed by three people

22 who denied -- who were moving to intervene at the

23 time. These intervenings represented CORVA, AMA

24 District 37, and Public Lands for the People.

25 On opposition -- and by the way, their

1 intervention was denied on September 21, 2000. They  
2 were intervening to dismiss the lawsuit, not to  
3 intervene to sit at the settlement  
4 table. And that is a very important date to  
5 remember.

6 Consultation -- and these people showed  
7 on their opposition that consultation with the  
8 Endangered Species Act of 1973 was not retired to be  
9 with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service until 1986.  
10 Until then, it was with the Secretary of the  
11 Interior.

12 BLM did, in fact, consult with the  
13 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the preparation of  
14 the CDCA's plan, and the evidence and proof of that  
15 is located on Page 162 of the plan, itself.

16 And I would like to ask Mr. Pool and  
17 other representatives of BLM: Why did BLM fall on  
18 your sword when, indeed, you did consult with U.S.  
19 Fish and Wildlife?

20 MIKE POOL: I -- I am not intimately  
21 familiar with the last round of negotiations, and I  
22 don't have that history. I'm not aware of that  
23 history until you brought it up today.

24 DEE STAPP: Okay. Because it seems like  
25 BLM fell on their sword, and the people who are

1 suffering for it is us.

2 On August 25, 2000, the Center withdrew  
3 its motion for summary judgement because BLM signed  
4 an agreement with them, and the Center claims that  
5 BLM agreed they had not consulted with U.S. Fish and  
6 Wildlife.

7 You guys, that looks like fraud. I'm  
8 appalled, and I'm disgusted that BLM would fall on  
9 their sword, and as a result, all of us have to pay  
10 the consequences.

11 Well, there is recourse. We can send  
12 letters in to have the Judge removed who is  
13 participating in this, and we can also write to --  
14 write to your Congressman and allow CORVA, AMA, and  
15 Public Lands for the People to intervene to have this  
16 lawsuit dismissed and the stipulation order set  
17 aside.

18 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

19 Next speaker is Michael Rodriguez.

20 MICHAEL RODRIGUEZ: Thanks for letting me  
21 speak. My name is Michael Rodriguez. I'm from  
22 West Covina, California.

23 I've been going to the Dunes since 1983.  
24 I just recently had the honor to take my son there  
25 for the first time ever, and I want to let you guys

1 know that. It was a nature experience for him. He  
2 loved the rocks which he was collecting by the canal.  
3 He loved the plant life, animal life. He saw a  
4 scorpion for the first time. He heard the coyotes  
5 outside fighting with each other.

6       This is a family thing that, if the  
7 Glamis Imperial Sand Dunes are shut down, I can't  
8 take him out there and enjoy those type of activities  
9 that I also enjoy. I think everyone here also enjoys  
10 participating like that and getting that special  
11 feeling of showing your children or other people,  
12 your neighbors, friends, what this type of experience  
13 is like.

14       I do not understand, basically, the basis  
15 of the milk vetch as far as -- it is not just growing  
16 in this area. I've heard it is growing in El Centro,  
17 on the outskirts of the Dunes, on the north side of  
18 the 78, where that's already closed down. And I  
19 don't understand how this could get to this point  
20 when you're closing off this section of the Dunes  
21 where this plant exists elsewhere and, supposedly,  
22 it's thriving.

23       I don't know why there wasn't any sort of  
24 evaluation or measures taken to figure this  
25 information out, but now I'm an activist so -- I

1 didn't think I'd be an activist to get the Dunes open  
 2 or attend Council meetings or anything like that, but  
 3 I'm going to do all that I can to support this to  
 4 help keep this open for my family and my son's  
 5 family.

6 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

7 Those people standing, we do have some  
 8 seats opened up in the bleachers, if you'd liked to  
 9 come in and sit down. That's up to you, but if you  
 10 want to see, we have some that opened up.

11 Next speaker's Terry Allen.

12 TERRY ALLEN: Good morning. My name is  
 13 Terry Allen. I'm from Las Vegas, Nevada.

14 I wanted to give you a little bit of  
 15 background on my situation. I do not think it's  
 16 probably any different than what you've heard  
 17 from these people who are represented behind me.

18 I started going out in the desert when I  
 19 was a child with my father. He was a mineralogist.  
 20 We went to ghost towns and mines and learned what the  
 21 desert represented and what the United States  
 22 represented as far as the diversity of your forests  
 23 and our outside areas.

24 I got into off-roading on a personal  
 25 basis when I was 18, and I joined the

1 Las Vegas Jeep Club. We got into quite a bit of  
2 conservation.

3 I learned a long time ago in the  
4 Jeep Club that if you had a piece of trash blow out  
5 of your rig, you got fined. I still carry that with  
6 me. It is something that drives my wife crazy. If I  
7 see somebody throw something out, I stop and pick it  
8 up.

9 To make a long story short, I have three  
10 children. I have three grandsons. My three children  
11 have all been to the Dunes with me. It's part of  
12 their life. All three of my kids have gone away from  
13 the family, but they've all come back to  
14 off-roading. They've all come back out, and they  
15 camp with us. I have one son that hasn't quite made  
16 it back to that fold, but I'm hoping for it.

17 So I want my grandsons to have the  
18 ability to go out and enjoy the recreation that we  
19 all truly, truly love, or we would not be here. It  
20 is our fault that we are here today.

21 If, as a group, we were all here, a year  
22 ago, whenever these lawsuits came around, and we put  
23 the money up where our mouths are, maybe this would  
24 not have happened.

25 So I'm calling on this crowd and I'm

1 calling on the members of the Board to please help  
2 us. Don't make this meeting and your support here a  
3 one-time operation. You need to open your wallets;  
4 you need to support the off-road groups that are  
5 organized. If you're not a person who gets involved  
6 in that type of thing, then, please send them a  
7 check, but you need to start coming to the meetings.

8 I'm as guilty as everybody else, and we  
9 have to support Roy. We have to support other people  
10 on the Board who are working for us. And for that, I  
11 do appreciate all of your time. No matter what your  
12 side of the coin is that you're here, I do appreciate  
13 the fact that you take your time out of your own  
14 personal lives and do what it is that you have to do.

15 I hope that the new Director for the  
16 BLM -- you know, we get a little bit jaded, as time  
17 goes on, listening to politicians and people who work  
18 on the Government's side of issues.

19 I truly hope that what I have seen here  
20 this morning is what is represented all the way  
21 through, and I truly believe that it is. And in this  
22 case I can only see very positive things from driving  
23 down here from Las Vegas this morning.

24 Again, I'm asking for the crowd's  
25 support. We have to go to these meetings, and these

1 people have to see us over and over and over again.

2 Thank you.

3 IAN DAVIDSON: I have made a request that

4 people standing by the door come in and take a place

5 in the bleacher seats. We need to keep that doorway

6 clear as a public safety, in a large crowd we have

7 here. Thank you.

8 Our next speaker will be B. J. Brunasso.

9 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: He already

10 spoke.

11 IAN DAVIDSON: Samantha Morsch.

12 Samantha Morsch.

13 I think that comes off you want to -- you

14 might disattach it.

15 Please, give your name for the record.

16 SAMANTHA MORSCH: Samantha Morsch.

17 I have to say I'm very impacted by all

18 the faces that I see out there today and

19 Thanksgiving weekend and Halloween weekend and we all

20 see each other, and here we are all part of the same

21 coalition.

22 And I probably won't say anything here

23 today that has not been said already, but to me the

24 most important thing about the Dunes is not only who

25 cares about them, but that we have them.



1 I've met people from Phoenix to San Jose.  
2 Also, I drug my mother out there last year, who drove  
3 from Nevada to come down and ride, and she was very  
4 excited to see the sand dunes. She couldn't believe  
5 that the years that I had been talking about this  
6 great opportunity, she was finally able to see it. I  
7 am very happy for this.

8 I think one of the biggest problems that  
9 I have with partial or possibly eventual closure of  
10 the Dunes will be the economic impact that we have  
11 discussed here today. But not just for the off-road  
12 shops, but also the tourism that goes along with  
13 them. El Centro, gas, the hotels, the storage fees,  
14 et cetera, the towing, and the RV repair shops, whom  
15 I've personally spent thousands of dollars there.

16 So I think it is very important for the  
17 economic impact for the entire Imperial County not to  
18 mention the outlying areas.

19 But lastly, I think the most important  
20 thing is that all of you, the DAC Committee members,  
21 that you guys represent our views to the higher-ups,  
22 to the Federal legislators. And I thank you for your  
23 time and that you will equally represent us to the  
24 Federal level.

25 But, also, it's very important for us as

1 riders to become involved with our local politicians,  
2 to speak to them, to go to their hearts and become  
3 involved, and to write letters and E-mails as  
4 necessary so that they can go forward and represent  
5

6 Us equally on the federal level. Thank you.

7 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

8 I am going to ask for the next group of  
9 speakers. I'm see a number of duplicate cards in  
10 here; so I'll go ahead and read the names just to  
11 make sure it's not my imagination these people  
12 haven't already spoken.

13 Don Teshian (phonetic); after that,  
14 Bruce Zeller (phonetic); Justin Jarrett Jenner;  
15 Justin Cole; and Wayne Mooradian.

16 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: Are you taking  
17 replacement speakers if they don't show up?

18 IAN DAVIDSON: We will still accept  
19 speaker cards if you want to fill one out. I believe  
20 they're out in the lobby area. And we will -- I've  
21 been taking them and setting the duplicate ones aside  
22 that we've continually been getting throughout this  
23 meeting since we started the public comment period,  
24 and I will gauge on the time frame left on going  
25 through those.

1           So if anybody wants to speak, please,

2 fill out a speaker card, and you will be heard.

3           Bruce Zeller. Justin Jarrett Jenner.

4           JUSTIN JENNER: Can you hear me? Well, I

5 did not really plan to be called on to come up here

6 to speak, but I want to be honest with you and talk

7 about when I was four or five years old, my dad and

8 my mom. You meet a lot of new people out there.

9 There have been many times that I've been, you know,

10 broken down, stuck. I mean, some people, they pull

11 over and help you out, you know, and you'd do the

12 same; you know, you'd help them.

13           We're all part of one big family here.

14 Everybody is -- you see people that have got a sand

15 sticker on, you wave to them, you know, "Hey, yeah, I

16 go to Glamis, too." You know, we are all part of one

17 big, happy family.

18           Nobody wants to destroy the Dunes. I

19 don't like seeing trash out there. I pick the trash

20 up when I see bottles on the ground.

21           I'm all for wildlife, you know, but it's,

22 like, I feel Glamis is a second home to me. I've

23 made a lot of good friends like Erin. We're friends

24 now.

25           Obviously, maybe we should just look at

1 the personalities of everybody here and how it sort  
2 of pulled us together, and, well, that's all.

3 IAN DAVIDSON: Thanks, dude.

4 Justin Cole. Has Justin spoke before?

5 JUSTIN COLE: My first time I was up here  
6 was in an organization capacity. Now I'm just a  
7 typical guy who grew up here, and I just have a quick  
8 comment.

9 It's directed towards Mike. I hope that  
10 your comments that you expressed earlier are  
11 definitely sincere. I definitely want you to know  
12 that I'm glad you're here, and on behalf of the  
13 off-roaders who speak against the BLM, we're going to  
14 speak loud and hard.

15 And we'll support you in any way we can,  
16 and anything we can do, just let us know. We will  
17 definitely stand behind you as long as you're  
18 standing behind us.

19 As to Roy, thank you for your thousands  
20 of hours of work that no one ever sees that you do,  
21 all the E-mails and the time you spend reading  
22 documents on the way to meetings. I just want to say  
23 thank you because it's the few of you people out  
24 there that are retired that spend 80 hours a week  
25 helping us people so we can spend our time with our

1 families and kids. So I just want to say thank you.

2 IAN DAVIDSON: All right.

3 Next speaker will be Wayne Mooradian.

4 And we can't have people speaking twice so we can get

5 through the speaker request forms because there are

6 people who haven't spoken. Keep your comments brief,

7 but after this, we won't be taking people twice.

8 WAYNE MOORADIAN: Thank you.

9 Mike, I also welcome you here. I'm glad

10 you're here.

11 Why was the CDCA area plan not dropped at

12 the time of its consultation? If the time cannot

13 end, then, the lawsuit is groundless. Why was it

14 pursued as that? Do you have any knowledge of that?

15 MIKE POOL: I can't respond to that. I'm

16 still in the learning curve on that. Let me clarify

17 the lady's last comment.

18 Let me -- I cannot specifically respond

19 to that. I'm still gathering information, and I

20 came -- I just arrived in this state a couple weeks

21 ago, and the first thing that took my attention was

22 the lawsuit.

23 And we had a time frame with which to

24 negotiate whether or not we should negotiate.

25 I can tell you that I put forth our best

1 gladiator from BLM, trying to effect a reasonable  
2 settlement, and we were left with no choice in terms  
3 of the things that have been filed by the Plaintiffs,  
4 you know, so we could consult on the original desert  
5 plan.

6 We're anxious to review this closure and  
7 remediation so we can go ahead and through the  
8 consultants as soon as possible.

9 WAYNE MOORADIAN: Can you look into  
10 getting a change of venue and have it brought down  
11 here to a court?

12 MIKE POOL: I can look into that. I can  
13 consult with our attorneys.

14 WAYNE MOORADIAN: Also, have the  
15 Plaintiff's expertise been challenged in this matter?  
16 I mean, I don't know that any of us have been out in  
17 the desert -- I mean, I've been going out there since  
18 '67, and I've never seen a backpacker or hiker out  
19 there.

20 MIKE POOL: I think we're getting into  
21 some legal dynamics here and I would prefer to seek  
22 counsel.

23 WAYNE MOORADIAN: No, I'm not. I've had  
24 this experience with this going back 25 years of  
25 fighting for closures -- fighting against closures, I

1 should say.

2 MIKE POOL: We're getting into some legal  
3 discussion, and it's something that we need to  
4 consult our attorneys on.

5 WAYNE MOORADIAN: Well, I want to make it  
6 an opportunity for you to take advantage of some of  
7 the people here that are experts in dunies. Several  
8 of them have come up and spoke already.

9 We can be legal expert witnesses on  
10 behalf of the dune, on behalf of the plants.

11 So I'd like to offer our services. Is  
12 there a list that we need to sign with you so you  
13 know who is offering the services?

14 MIKE POOL: Pardon me?

15 WAYNE MOORADIAN: Is there a list that we  
16 can hand to you of these people that would be willing  
17 to offer as expert witnesses?

18 MIKE POOL: You can leave that with me  
19 before we close the meeting.

20 WAYNE MOORADIAN: Great. Also, the ESA  
21 was not intended to outweigh our Constitutional  
22 rights.

23 IAN DAVIDSON: Sir, we still have other  
24 speakers. I'm still receiving speaker cards. Please  
25 conclude your comments.

1           WAYNE MOORADIAN: Is there a time period  
2 after all this that this will be open for comment  
3 later?

4           MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: Let him talk.

5           IAN DAVIDSON: Yeah. You can -- you can  
6 come back and -- you know, as I said, we'd made  
7 available time at the end of meeting in the and  
8 second public comment period to try to --

9           WAYNE MOORADIAN: What time was that?

10          IAN DAVIDSON: We'll try to take from  
11 this list, depending on how much time we have. I  
12 continue to get speaker cards from people who want to  
13 talk. The other comment period is probably 2:30.

14          WAYNE MOORADIAN: 2:30?

15          IAN DAVIDSON: 3:15.

16          WAYNE MOORADIAN: All right. I can speak  
17 again at that time?

18          IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

19          Next speaker.

20          ROY DENNER: I would just like to address  
21 the legal question. I'm not an attorney either, but  
22 as I understand it, our real problem, in simple  
23 layman's terms, has to do with an Endangered Species  
24 Act, which is a law.

25          That law, as I understand it, says that



1 if it can be shown that public use of public lands  
2 may impact -- the word "may" -- may impact an  
3 endangered species, that agency is required to shut  
4 that -- that area down and do consultation with  
5 Fish and Wildlife and do studies that pertain. The  
6 best thing that could happen to us in this case is  
7 that those studies will show that we're not impacting  
8 it. But I do thank you for your thoughts.

9 IAN DAVIDSON: Next group of five  
10 speakers, starting off with Dale Davis, Chad George,  
11 Larry Engwall, Julie Allen, and John Demory.

12 Dale Davis.

13 DALE DAVIS: Well, thank you for having  
14 me. My name is Dale Davis, and I represent myself  
15 and thousands of others like me who haven't come to  
16 these meetings in the past.

17 We want to let you know that we're here.  
18 We're upset. We're really upset about this lawsuit.  
19 We are offended that the BLM caved in to these people  
20 on this lawsuit. And we want to say --  
21 (Applause.)

22 And we want to say we're here to support  
23 the BLM if you want us to support you. If you don't  
24 want us to support you, we will vote you out in  
25 November.

1       Like most of the other speakers, I'm here  
2 as a supporter for access, access for all Americans,  
3 not just the limited green environmentalists. We  
4 want to be able to use our land with our families and  
5 with our children and with our friends.

6       Basically, I'd like to have you extended  
7 the comment period for the National Off-Highway  
8 Management Plan to 120 days, at the least.

9       Took you years to put it together. To  
10 give us a month to comment on anything is  
11 ridiculous.

12       I'd like to say that I want no more  
13 out-of-court settlements, period. We want you to  
14 bring these lawsuits to court. Let a jury decide and  
15 let the American people know what's going on. No  
16 more backroom deals.

17       We don't want the public to be left out,  
18 and most of all, we don't want our money wasted on  
19 plans that you throw away on a lawsuit, and then you  
20 come back and want more money to implement the terms  
21 of the lawsuit.

22       Anyway, thank you for having us,  
23 The fool in love in California.

24       IAN DAVIDSON: Next speaker,  
25 Chad George. Chad.

1 CHAD GEORGE: Hi, my name is Chad George.

2 I'm 12 years old. Not only is my family fitness

3 relied on the Dunes -- but form of life is. You

4 know, what I'm trying to say is the Dunes. We

5 don't -- don't do baseball or hockey. We do

6 off-road.

7 We would like to -- we would like studies

8 on the milk vetch plant. We're mad, and we're not

9 going to take it. Thank you.

10 IAN DAVIDSON: Larry Engwall.

11 LARRY ENGWALL: Thank you. My name is

12 Larry Engwall, and I'm a legislative officer for the

13 Desert Vipers Motorcycle Club.

14 I just want to say a couple things about

15 the recent CDCA lawsuit and let you know that part of

16 the lawsuit was negotiated as an innovative status by

17 an attorney by the name Paul Turf. And this

18 gentlemen knows what he's doing, and he did the best

19 he could to try to effect a settlement; and as you

20 know, it did not turn out the best way we wanted it

21 to turn out, but there is a chance and an opportunity

22 to go back and try to appeal this lawsuit, and this

23 will take money.

24 Right now the money that was pitched in

25 by the Coalition, including the Blue Ribbon and the

1 other off-highway vehicle members, the shorthaul was  
2 about \$4,000 just for the intervenor status and the  
3 settlement.

4       So if you could, donate money to the  
5 Blue Ribbon Coalition and help make up that \$4,000  
6 shortfall, and then if we're going to go back to try  
7 to appeal and take it to another lawsuit, that would  
8 take a lot of money.

9       So if you're going to do anything,  
10 number one, pitch in money and help this -- help the  
11 Blue Ribbon fight this settlement; and then,  
12 number two, vote on November 7 because until we  
13 change the administration, things aren't going to  
14 change. You guys know that.

15       (Applause.)

16       I'd also like to echo the comments about  
17 public recreation and independent recreation.  
18 You know, we go out into the desert, and we go out  
19 into these real desolate places, and it's not really  
20 good hiking areas. I mean, I love to hike. I love  
21 to go to Zion and Bryce (phonetic) and hike the  
22 national parks, and I also feel that off-highway  
23 vehicle recreation is a valid form of recreation.

24       Once again, I'd like to support and urge  
25 you people to support the Blue Ribbon's idea of

1 back-country recreation areas. They have been  
2 proposing that on a national level to try to get out  
3 federal land leaders to look at different areas of  
4 managing, rather than just saying, "Hey, we need to  
5 make all this wilderness" because, really, if you  
6 make wilderness areas, it's hiking only. No mountain  
7 bikes, no snow mobiles, and, really, to be fair, we  
8 should set aside different areas for different forms  
9 of recreation because it is public lands. And all of  
10 us have a right to be on our public lands.

11 I'd also like to remind everyone of the  
12 Deep Green Agenda of the Wildlands Project. Right  
13 now we have about 107 million acres in the  
14 United States. Their goal is 500 million acres from  
15 sea to shining sea. Take a look and see what makes  
16 us like trapped rats. It's -- see, we've got to  
17 clean up our direction to make sure that does not  
18 happen and protect our public lands. Our people are  
19 at a disadvantage and do not know that our  
20 land is affected by it.

21 I do know that there's a lot of people  
22 that come to hike. I mean, hiking is a great way to  
23 see the amazing countrysides.

24 Thank you.

25 IAN DAVIDSON: Julie Allen.

1 JULIE ALLEN: Good morning, my name is  
2 Julie Allen. I'm the Vice Chair of the Saidu Walker  
3 Coalition. Thank you for letting me speak this  
4 morning.

5 And welcome to California, Mr. Pool.

6 We covered a lot of information this  
7 morning, and I'll probably be repeating some of  
8 what's already been spoken.

9 First of all, with regard to the  
10 off-road -- with regard to the off-highway vehicle  
11 strategy, with respect to the rock climbers and  
12 miners, it is an OHV strategy plan. So I don't see  
13 how your -- your interests are even affected.

14 And you said that it's just a general  
15 plan full of just ideas to fix the problem of all  
16 prescriptions for closure were limit at certain -- at  
17 different locations, when I think it's incredibly  
18 important to have a mitigation clause in there. We  
19 have the same prescriptions for closures, and we need  
20 prescriptions for opening different locations.

21 And I definitely think it should be  
22 included in this draft plan for us, the public, to  
23 review and see whether we think it's a good idea or  
24 not or add to those ideas.

25 Roy, if you can bring this up again to

1 include a mitigation chapter for off-road closures in  
 2 this plan, I think it's a perfect place for it to be  
 3 and that it should be included.

4 The next item of the Nonprofit  
 5 Association, I heard you talking about all of the  
 6 different groups, and we're going to come together  
 7 and form this association. I didn't hear anything  
 8 about how you want to spend the money. What do you  
 9 want money for?

10 I'm serious. You said we could ask  
 11 during this.

12 MOLLY BRADY: Basically, the nonprofit  
 13 group is to make improvements. As I said, this is a  
 14 protection ruling for responsible use of the area to  
 15 serve as an advocacy group.

16 In some of these other groups, they've  
 17 done some prevention work for providing improvements  
 18 for user groups, as well as providing preservation.

19 JULIE ALLEN: Building trails for OHV --

20 MOLLY BRADY: They are certainly things  
 21 that could be done.

22 JULIE ALLEN: Could be done.

23 Is it part of your business statement  
 24 that OHV recreation would be exposed -- promotion of  
 25 OHV recreation?

1           MOLLY BRADY: Actually, across the board,  
2 all these would be addressed with these; however, it  
3 is very premature to talk about how we use the money  
4 when we don't have an organization.

5           I think there is a great opportunity, but  
6 there is a need for leadership and a desire to do  
7 this.

8           JULIE ALLEN: Okay. Well, I need to know  
9 what is the purpose of it. I mean, working for the  
10 desert can work in many ways.

11           On the business plan, fee demo thing, by  
12 way of background, I've been involved with the  
13 Fee Demo plan in the Imperial Sand Dunes from pretty  
14 much its inception when the BLM first presented it.  
15 I've been against it from the get-go because I feel  
16 like we already pay taxes; it is already our land. We  
17 pay for sticker fees. There is grant money available  
18 for maintenance, and so forth. But if BLM came to us  
19 and said, "Every dollar you pay us, we'll put back  
20 into your recreation." So we sort of went with it.

21  
22           But one of the things we asked for,  
23 in fact, at the Off-Highway Commission meeting, we  
24 asked the BLM to give us a business plan, give us a  
25 five-year plan. Tell us why you need this money or



1 how you plan to spend this money.

2 Now, I don't know where that got turned  
3 around to it being a business plan for the fee  
4 program. I mean, this business plan, this is a first  
5 draft. And I don't know when it got from this  
6 (indicating), to a page and a half, but this is all  
7 about how to do a fee program. This is not about how  
8 to spend your fee money. This is not a business  
9 plan, in my mind. A business plan is how to plan to  
10 run your business for the next five years. How do  
11 you plan to spend the money that you're collecting.

12 In any case, I do not trust a page and a  
13 half. I have no idea what that is, but I know what  
14 all when into here.

15 IAN DAVIDSON: Your time is --

16 JULIE ALLEN: -- winding up.

17 Last thing, then, that I want to say  
18 is -- so this is up to 90 days -- right? -- 90 days  
19 to review the page and a half. Good.

20 Everybody get a copy of whatever it is  
21 that's out there.

22 Just about the lawsuit, the Off-Road  
23 Coalition is staying involved, and we will stay on  
24 top of every option available. We've already  
25 discussed two options in anticipation of this

1 settlement; so stay in tune to Glamis on-line. We'll  
2 be posting everything we can there. Thanks a lot.

3 IAN DAVIDSON: All right.

4 We're going to take our next group of  
5 five people: John DeLap, Justin Demory,  
6 Greg Campbell, Bob Rudnick, and Mark Grimsley.

7 JOHN DeLAP: My name is John Delap, and  
8 I'm from Fountain Valley in Orange County.

9 As a California off-roader with 16 years,  
10 I've come to respect and love the beauty of the  
11 California desert. I've shared the fun and the  
12 excitement of desert off-roading with countless  
13 people, and they have all enjoyed the scenic view,  
14 the city dwellers, people who don't get out there.

15 I feel strongly that more time should be  
16 allotted, more input for the new national OHV Land  
17 Plan Strategy, and I'm heartless to learn of the  
18 D.A.C.'s multiple use BLM management has expressed  
19 here tonight.

20 I would request the new OHV management  
21 strategy include a provision to effect and enhance,  
22 both protect and to enhance OHV recreation  
23 opportunities.

24 If the true measure of public sentiment  
25 is sought on any matter, then I suggest future

1 meeting be held closer to the highly populated areas,  
2 San Bernardino for example, because you have no idea  
3 how many people would come and express their views on  
4 something as closures to heart as off-roading, if it  
5 were held in a place like San Bernardino.

6       And lastly, I would request that all of  
7 us off-road enthusiasts -- I know this is a little  
8 bit indirect, but I request that all of us hall out  
9 more trash than we brought in, and the reason is so  
10 that none of us will have our off-roading experience  
11 or hiking or backpacking or mining experiences  
12 tainted by unsightly litter.

13       Thank you for your time.

14       LARRY ENGWALL: Could I add a comment?

15       IAN DAVIDSON: Sure.

16       LARRY ENGWALL: This is Larry Engwall,  
17 again, with the Desert Vipers.

18       If you guys do pitch in money to the  
19 Board, please write a note on your check that says  
20 for the CDC lawsuit so it goes for covering  
21 attorneys' fees. Thanks.

22       IAN DAVIDSON: Next speaker, Jon Demory.

23       JON DEMORY: Okay. My name is  
24 Jon Demory. I'm from San Diego, California. I guess  
25 I have a few questions I'm hoping you guys can help

1 us out with.

2       There has been some studies, and one of  
3 them was in regard to the milk vetch plant. Correct  
4 me if I'm wrong with the name. I was curious where  
5 you guys got your professionals to do this study,  
6 because I see it everywhere out there, on both sides  
7 of Highway 78.

8       My question is: Are these people that  
9 you have going up there looking at it objectively to  
10 where they facilitate a possible solution that  
11 benefits both the environmentalists, which we all, I  
12 think, want to be helping the environment, and the  
13 people who do like to off-road? And I really wish  
14 that I could get that answer, number one.

15       Number two is: Glamis and all these  
16 off-roading places are not just for off-road. They  
17 are for family time, family life, per se.

18       I know I've been going out there for  
19 24 years. I was three months old when I first went  
20 up there. My brother, 18, was out there when he was  
21 eight days old. We've been out there for many years.  
22 I'm a third-generation sand rat. If you've never  
23 heard of that term -- I don't know who hasn't.

24       I would like to know who these people  
25 are. That's a major concern of mine. I would like

1 to know who you're hiring to do these  
2 studies. But I would really like to know what their  
3 qualifications are to where we can get adequate  
4 information from them so they can provide to you and  
5 also to the Federal Government because the people  
6 from Washington, for the most part, don't come out to  
7 the desert, and if they would, I would really  
8 encourage them to come stay with me -- stay with  
9 anybody out there for one weekend. I guarantee they  
10 would change their minds completely. Thank you.

11 IAN DAVIDSON: Justin Demory.

12 JUSTIN DEMORY: Justin Demory from  
13 Temecula, California. My brother just spoke. I was  
14 out there eight days after my mother had me. People  
15 call it Glamis, Imperial Sand Dunes. I call it my  
16 backyard. We make, minimum, 12 trips a year. Middle  
17 of August my parents have gone out there and ridden  
18 all night. I have not had the pleasure of doing  
19 that, but I someday I will.

20 Basically, it's a plant. It's a milk  
21 vetch plant. It is on both sides of the highway.  
22 Everything knows here that it is a weed. If you run  
23 it over or anything will happen, you are going to get  
24 holes in your tire. We try to stay away from the  
25 plant because they put holes in your tires.

1           Another thing is it's on both sides. We  
2 ride -- we ride on our side. Federal land has it  
3 over there. I could see if it was a problem if we  
4 had, maybe, a few plants on our side and none on  
5 their's. That would be a problem. But when it's on  
6 one side, and both sides it's on, there's no --  
7 there's no real threat. It's on one side. It's not  
8 going to be gone forever. It's on both sides. On  
9 one side, it's on a lot. If it was not, then, it  
10 wouldn't be a problem.

11           Another thing is that closing down the  
12 Dunes would take away jobs, would take away family  
13 values. We'd have nothing to do, and we would impact  
14 other things. We'd have to do other things that's  
15 really not in our interest.

16           And that's all I have to say. Thank you.

17           IAN DAVIDSON: Greg Campbell.

18           GREG CAMPBELL: My name is Greg Campbell,  
19 and I'm from Corona, California. This might not be  
20 very eloquent 'cause I wrote the notes up there.

21           I feel very disappointed with the BLM to  
22 have gotten into an agreement. Sounds like yesterday  
23 when we knew we'd all be here today.

24           It just sounds like, "Hey, we got to do  
25 this before this meeting."

1 I have seen the Imperial County --

2 (Applause.)

3 I have seen the Dunes get cut in half.

4 The road is there. Okay? We'll give the north to

5 the environmentalists, and we'll keep the south.

6 That's cool. Now it's been cut in a half again.

7 Okay? What? Next year in half again, half again?

8 Pretty soon, we're going to have Comp. Hill, and we

9 all know how pretty that is.

10 We all do try to fix that thought. I

11 know that. I'm an assistant Scout Master, and a

12 Girl Scout leader. I take children out to different

13 areas. I enjoy multi-use areas. I teach 'em about

14 the environment, about plants.

15 That's it. This is the -- one of the

16 family activities that my family and friends enjoy.

17 We volunteer to clean up, not just clean up weekends;

18 we're out there cleaning up every weekend. We clean

19 up fire pits. We do what we can to clean up because

20 we know there are pigs. We're trying not to keep it

21 that way. We try to make up for those that are.

22 My friends and I agree, and we are going

23 to support every effort to reopen any of the closed

24 areas, and maybe we should go a little further.

25 Let's open the north side.

1 (Applause.)

2 I'd also like you to please include user  
3 input into future plans and include the mitigation.  
4 Like they said, it is OHV related. I've taken kids  
5 out for rock hunting. I've taken them to the mines.  
6 That's great, too, but this is an OHV plan.

7 In closing, about the milk weed, I have  
8 see the paint tore off of my vehicles and off various  
9 things. I have seen what the sand can do to my toys.  
10 How can my toys affect the plant more than that sand  
11 out there can?

12 Thank you.

13 IAN DAVIDSON: Bob Rudnick.

14 BOB RUDNICK: Good morning. My name is  
15 Bob Rudnick, and I'm one of the owners of Onyx Ranch.

16 I'd like to speak to an issue that really  
17 hasn't been brought up, to my knowledge, today. I  
18 brought it up at your meetings last June. I'll  
19 restate it very briefly.

20 We have a real problem. That is, private  
21 landowners are meticulous about their land.

22 Some of our country at Jawbone Canyon  
23 and Dove Springs has been torn up so badly that you  
24 wouldn't be able to use it as a ranch. So that I  
25 would propose that a resolution be passed today that



1 a committee be formed to deal with the issue of law  
2 enforcement and any other issues that -- that -- that  
3 are affected by private landowners next to BLM.

4 I would request that a committee be  
5 appointed. We've attempted to do that last time.  
6 Tim Salt, I think, was appointed head of it. I  
7 communicated with Tim. I was never invited to any  
8 meeting that ever happened. So if there is going to  
9 be a committee created that deals with private land  
10 and BLM issues throughout the state of California, I  
11 would like to serve on that committee, and I would  
12 also volunteer to be Chairman.

13 Now, one of the issues that I feel  
14 strongly about is public education. Part of the  
15 problem is with two of our areas -- Dove Springs and  
16 Jawbone Canyon. Those areas are designated open. And  
17 I'm sure that it doesn't apply to these folks because  
18 most people respect the natural resources. A few  
19 don't. It's those few, perhaps, that need to be  
20 educated either with signage or some kind of system  
21 so that they understand that "open" does not mean  
22 that they can go up the hillside and cause erosion.

23 We got caverns in some of our hills that  
24 are 10 or 12 feet deep. It will take a thousand  
25 years for that to get fixed.

1           So perhaps some of these issues can be  
2 resolved if a proper committee is formed that deals  
3 with the feedbacks and to give feedback to the  
4 Desert Advisory Council, and hopefully we can create  
5 some kind of meaningful method to solve this problem  
6 so that people that want to use the desert -- and I'm  
7 in favor of multiple use. But the open designation,  
8 as it stands, and the effects of it, as far as I'm  
9 concerned, is an experiment that has failed.

10          Thank you.

11          IAN DAVIDSON: Mark Grimsley.

12          MARY GRIMSLEY: How about

13 "Mary Grimsley."

14          IAN DAVIDSON: "Mary." Okay. Sorry.

15          MARY GRIMSLEY: I'm here speaking on  
16 behalf the High Desert Multiple-Use Coalition out in  
17 Ridgecrest. Hold on. Too short.

18          We were one of the intervenor in the  
19 recent legislation that was signed.

20          I don't know if this is the time or place  
21 to comment on what I'm going to try to bring up. I  
22 don't want to create a rift, but I'd like to bring  
23 more people into the OHV community. I'd like to  
24 comment on the term "OHV." The term "OHV" is usually  
25 thought of in a negative light, such as motorcycles

1 and quads racing across the land. Our automobile  
2 industry insists on commercial -- gosh. I'm trying  
3 to read my writing. Writing in the stands was not  
4 the greatest -- squashing through the mud, throwing  
5 water, and spewing dust.

6       There is a segment that is being left out  
7 of the equation in the various planned processes.  
8 Anyone who takes their vehicle off the pavement is an  
9 OHVer, whether for reaching a trail or parking your  
10 RV or a motor home, riding to your favorite rock  
11 campsite or hunting area, for mining exploration,  
12 photography, rock climbing, or to ride up to -- take  
13 dune buggies and quads on the sand. You're all  
14 OHVers.

15       You also can travel on roads to seek out  
16 petroglyphs or all kinds of camps. You're all  
17 OHVers. We need to have two definitions so that we  
18 are not all lumped together. A suggestion might be  
19 to permit motorized access and OHV. We all need to  
20 still work together, but we all have different goals  
21 and needs in this area.

22       Mitigation is for different needs and  
23 needs to be addressed, especially in this new OHV  
24 plan that's coming up.

25       To comment on the current legislation, it

1 is sad that the recreational environmental groups are  
2 being allowed to circumvent the public process and  
3 they are hoping to do it by going to court.

4 To the public here, please support the  
5 groups who have intervened. They have not signed  
6 this agreement. Hopefully, they will have enough  
7 money to be able to appeal this agreement. Your  
8 financial support would greatly be appreciated.

9 IAN DAVIDSON: All right. I'm going to  
10 read the next group of speakers. And starting out  
11 with Dan and Paulette Lowe, Billy Sims,  
12 Connie Sims, and Warren Sternin.

13 Because of the addition -- to the amount  
14 of additional speaker cards that we've gotten and  
15 we've accepted, we'll have to ask that we cut down on  
16 the time speaking to two minutes. Even at that, we  
17 are not going to be able to make our lunch schedule.

18 Okay. State your name, please.

19 PAULETTE LOWE: My name is Paulette Lowe,  
20 and my husband's name is Dan Lowe, and we live over  
21 in Riverside, California. I would just like to say  
22 thank you for giving us the opportunity to have a  
23 say-so in what's been going on in our deserts, and I  
24 do mean our deserts.

25 I have been going to the desert since I

1 was a little girl, about a knee-high to a

2 grasshopper, I should say.

3       Anyway, my husband, once he met me, my

4 father introduced him to the desert, and obviously

5 it's now in his blood, too.

6       I'd like to see the desert still stay for

7 the generations of my nieces, my nephews, and the

8 children that they will have.

9       I would just like to say that I'm -- I'm

10 saddened to hear that they want to close down the

11 deserts where we go with family and communicate and

12 actually get to sit around the campfires and tell

13 stories and see friends that we have not seen in a

14 long time.

15       When we go to the desert we also meet

16 lots of new people. For instance, there has been

17 people who would stop on the highway and look down at

18 what's been going on, and I had invited them over to

19 our camp to let them ride on the trails. And these

20 are people from, like, Germany and from, like,

21 Austria, people who are visiting in our country. And

22 they think this is a wonderful sport and a wonderful

23 place for family communication, that you can be with

24 your family and loved ones.

25       I'd like to say that there's a gentleman

1 in the audience that has a shirt on that says:

2 "Welcome to the U.S. National Forest. No  
3 trespassing. No hunting. No fishing.  
4 No hiking. No camping. No off-road  
5 vehicles. No rights. Violators will be  
6 sent to reeducational camps."

7 If we don't vote --

8 (Applause.)

9 If we don't vote in November and have our  
10 voices heard, it will read at the beginning of the  
11 Dunes, it will read:

12 "Welcome to our Imperial Valley. No  
13 trespassing. No biking. No camping. No  
14 off-road. No rights. Oh, and by the  
15 way, please leave your money by the  
16 gate."

17 I would like to say I'm a tax payer. I  
18 pay the fees when I go to camp, which I do not mind  
19 paying because we do have some facilities which are  
20 very nice like -- like the trash cans. We -- I know  
21 our group, we do pick up all the trash, and we do  
22 pick up other people's trash, and we dispose of it.

23 IAN DAVIDSON: Your time is up.

24 PAULETTE LOWE: Okay. I'd just like to  
25 say thank you.

1 BILL SIMS: Good afternoon. My name is  
2 Bill Sims, and I'm from Westminster.

3 I've heard what everybody has had to say.  
4 I don't know any of you people on this Board. I  
5 don't know if you're good, bad -- good people, bad  
6 people, or indifferent. I just hope that you are  
7 reasonable. That's all that I can hope for.

8 In my line of business, I work with  
9 property management. I'm a planner. And one of the  
10 problems that I see with the government in managing  
11 the lands is that they don't manage.

12 I seek no excuse for an area being closed  
13 for the simple reason that what it needs to be is  
14 managed. Total access is for everyone. So if the  
15 bureaucracies want to sit on their butts and manage  
16 from offices in desolate areas and not get out in  
17 these areas, to put the resources into people so  
18 these can manage these areas so that the areas that  
19 need to be protected are protected.

20 There's areas of Death Valley these days  
21 that I'll never go take my grandchildren to for the  
22 simple reason that no one can physically walk into  
23 these areas, pack the backpacks, and go see these  
24 beautiful areas because there is simply no access to  
25 them on foot.

1           But yet a road is not going to restore an  
2 area. It's going to be the access road that all the  
3 public and people can enjoy the area.

4           There are some that need to be protected,  
5 but protection means management, not exclusion. And  
6 this --

7           (Applause.)

8           And this seems to be the path of both --  
9 appears to be the middle-man road, as well as the  
10 environmental road. Their agenda is total exclusion  
11 with no compromise, no management. It's easier to  
12 close an area than it is to manage it.

13          (Applause.)

14          You have -- you have 500 people or more  
15 sitting here that would be more than willing to help  
16 in this endeavor.

17          The Forest Service has a OHV program  
18 where volunteers go and work with the Forest Service  
19 to extend their manpower to go over and manage these  
20 areas. They need their eyes, their ears, the people  
21 that they meet, to see that these areas are properly  
22 managed and not abused by those who do not care about  
23 the areas, the people that we don't want to come into  
24 those areas. We need to reeducate, to tell these  
25 people that they can't behave in this manner.



1 IAN DAVIDSON: Sir, your time is up. Can  
2 you conclude your comments.

3 BILL SIMS: A lot of the four-wheel clubs  
4 do an "Adopt a Trail" with the National Forest  
5 Service. I would really love for the BLM to take  
6 advantage to use the resources that are there and are  
7 unused. They seem to be interested in  
8 collecting funds but not managing the public lands so  
9 that we all can take advantage of it and work  
10 together. Thank you.

11 CONNIE SIMS: My name is Connie Sims, and  
12 I'm from Westminster, California.

13 Is this coming through?

14 I have some questions that I don't expect  
15 answers from today, but I would like the Board and  
16 everyone in the room to contemplate them, think about  
17 them, and perhaps find answers.

18 First of all, I respect the Endangered  
19 Species law. However, what constitutes an endangered  
20 species?

21 Second, this plant that they want to  
22 save, it sounds like, from the people that are here,  
23 that it's a very popular plant. So why are we trying  
24 to save it? Is it because it's an endangered  
25 species, or is there other reason behind the closure

1 of this land?

2 (Applause.)

3 And my final question: What endangered  
4 species were saved during the fires when the  
5 firefighters could not go in and stop the fires?

6 WARREN STERNIN: My name is Warner  
7 Sternin, and I'm from Cypress, California. I've been  
8 going out to Glamis since about '83. And I highly  
9 protest any more closures out there. The,  
10 supposedly, endangered plant is on both sides of the  
11 highway. The other side of the highway where we're  
12 not allowed to go and we don't go is wild and  
13 thriving. It's thriving where we are riding and  
14 driving. We avoid it at all costs.

15 I've been standing back here, looking up  
16 at the panel sitting back here, and I notice several  
17 faces that look bored. And I'd like to say that if  
18 you are not interested in what we have to say, then,  
19 you should not be involved in this.

20 (Applause.)

21 I think every person in this room is all  
22 in favor of multiple use. I think we all go out  
23 there, and we pick up trash that others have left,  
24 and that includes single-use users, hikers,  
25 et cetera, that are exclusionary.

1           A lot of us are involved in environmental  
2 programs with the Forest Service. I'd like to echo  
3 the sentiment that the BLM is more than welcome at  
4 any time to ask us to come out and help with anything  
5 they would want. That includes patrolling.

6           I understand that it's easier to close an  
7 area than to manage. And if you guys need someone to  
8 go out there, not to enforce the laws, but to observe  
9 and report, we're more than willing to do that. But  
10 how can you do that when, in fact, the people want to  
11 just go out and do some of that as well as try to  
12 educate people that are out there that are not  
13 responsible.

14          And I'd like to thank everyone who is  
15 here for being here.

16          And I'd like to encourage everyone to  
17 write letters to their congressman and the senators,  
18 to the BLM -- everyone that you can think of. Write  
19 letters, donate money. It's a very worthy cause to  
20 keep our public lands open for us, for everyone, not  
21 just for a few elite extremists. Thank you.

22          IAN DAVIDSON: All right. We're going to  
23 take our next group, and we're limiting the time now  
24 to two minutes.

25          I'd like to start with Bruce Zeller,

1 Chad George, Jim Arbogast, Jon Heald, and

2 Rick Fisher.

3 BRUCE ZELLER: Hi. My name is

4 Bruce Zeller. This is my daughter Sheryl. We're

5 from Flagstaff, Arizona.

6 And I just want to say a word about the

7 Disabilities Act. Somebody mentioned it earlier.

8 There are a lot of things that we take for granted,

9 such as bicycle riding and playing baseball,

10 cheerleading, and my daughter cannot do any of those.

11 But you put her on an LT-80, you'd better watch out

12 because she's very good on it. It's the last thing

13 that she can really go out and enjoy.

14 Thank you for your time.

15 IAN DAVIDSON: Chad George.

16 Jim Arbogast.

17 Is there a Chad George here?

18 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: I'm here to speak

19 on behalf of Chad, if I could. I've got his

20 permission to do that.

21 IAN DAVIDSON: Okay. Let's continue on

22 here.

23 BRUCE ZELLER: Good afternoon. Welcome,

24 panel and Mr. Pool.

25 One thing I just want to mention is that

1 we're environmentalists, too. We want open space,  
2 clean air, clean land, and we just want to use the  
3 trails. That's all.

4 I have just -- I want to run through some  
5 of this stuff here that Senator Cranston,  
6 Diane Feinstein are trying to carry through with  
7 S-21, and our community suffered greatly.

8 She made a promise, when S-21 passed,  
9 that the rest of the sand dunes and recreational  
10 areas wouldn't be phased, and look where we're at  
11 right now. And this is very disturbing.

12 I also want to mention here that this  
13 current lawsuit, people here seem to think that this  
14 is just affecting just the Imperial Sand Dunes and  
15 recreation area. It's -- the Imperial Sand Dunes  
16 area is just the tip of the iceberg that's being  
17 affected right now. This whole desert -- we're  
18 talking about millions of acres that are being  
19 affected.

20 Now, all of us in here are mostly OHV  
21 people, but also affected is multiple use, which is  
22 every other type of user, whether it's mountain  
23 biking, mining, logging, ranching -- you have it. It  
24 is also being affected, and you have to stick  
25 together. And these lawsuits are here

1 to split and divide us. We have to stick together,  
2 folks.

3 (Applause.)

4 There was other -- I just also want to  
5 mention there was other intervention that we've  
6 already talk about, CORVA and AMA 37, TRT also  
7 intervened, and after we spent thousands dollars, not  
8 only to intervene, but to dismiss this suit.

9 Unfortunately, we have the Judge that  
10 denied us this right in further pursuing it, and we'd  
11 like your support on this.

12 Earlier this year, a U.S. Federal judge  
13 up in San Francisco, Judge Takaki (phonetic), he  
14 ruled that OHV recreation is a protectable right and  
15 also all the related trails. I just wanted to  
16 remind you folks of that.

17 One -- I cannot help but get cynical, and  
18 I'm going to turn around here and look at you, but  
19 this process here of us coming to these meetings and  
20 getting involved, I cannot help it.

21 When most of us leave here, we go out the  
22 door, and we feel good, and that is not the end of  
23 it. You've heard a lot of other people here talk.  
24 Let's get involved, write letters. Let's donate some  
25 money. Let's E-mail. Let's fax. Let's get

1 involved.

2 IAN DAVIDSON: Sir, you are going to have  
3 to wrap your comments up.

4 BRUCE ZELLER: That's all I want to say.  
5 Thank you, folks.

6 MARK HARMS: Hi. My name is Mark Harms.  
7 I'm a member of CORVA, San Diego Off-Road Coalition,  
8 and also American Sand Association. I'm a  
9 recreationalist. I'm also representing my company,  
10 Sand Tires Unlimited.

11 It is a company that's been around for  
12 about 30 years because of these people sitting behind  
13 me and some of the people outside. And whatever  
14 success I've got, I owe to these people behind me  
15 here.

16 I don't think that the issue here is a  
17 weed. The issue here is politics, and the fact is,  
18 is for 30 years the off-road people have been soft  
19 targets, and that's why we've been losing what we are  
20 losing. This panel here doesn't make the decision as  
21 to whether we keep the Dunes or not. They are just  
22 listening to what we have to say. This isn't where  
23 we need to vent. Obviously, they need to hear what  
24 we are saying, but they're not the people making the  
25 decision.

1           Now, since we have been this soft target  
2 for all these years, I think that's what makes it  
3 easy and why we keep losing what we are losing.

4           If anybody thought that in '94, when we  
5 lost the north side, that was going to be the end of  
6 it, you were kidding yourself. And if you think this  
7 is going to be the end of it, you are kidding  
8 yourself again. There is going to be a KOA  
9 campground out there if we keep doing it this way.

10          Now, the problem, as I see it, is that I'm  
11 partly responsible for this problem because I haven't  
12 gotten as involved as I should have, and I'm changing  
13 that. I started changing that about two weeks ago.

14          Now, my house is about 1,050 square feet,  
15 my motor home is 13 years old, and I boat is  
16 25 years old. So I don't live a very lavish  
17 lifestyle. But I've been saving for about three  
18 years for one of these buggies to come out, and what  
19 I'm going to do right now -- I've got a check in  
20 here. I'm going to put my money where my mouth is.  
21 There is \$40,000 in this envelope. And -- and I --  
22 I'm going to --

23           (Applause.)

24          I'd like this panel to go back to your  
25 boss -- who, by the way, I do not really



1 appreciate -- that I'd like you to know that we're  
2 coming after you, and you are going to start hearing  
3 a lot of noise. And if I start to look like a white  
4 Jesse Jackson, you'll know why.

5 IAN DAVIDSON: John Heald.

6 Rick Fisher.

7 RICK FISHER: Good morning. My name is  
8 Rick Fisher. I'm from Los Angeles. I'm the  
9 Treasurer of the California Off-Road Vehicle  
10 Association. I've been off-roading for about  
11 40 years. My family owns dune buggies,  
12 four-wheel-drives, ATVs and motorcycles. And I've  
13 been on the front line of this fight for five years.  
14 The reason I state those qualifications  
15 is because I'm going to say a few things that you  
16 might find a little scary, but I think they're  
17 important.

18 What we've heard today is a lot of  
19 frustration. We've heard a lot of human stories from  
20 people who think that they are paralyzed for no  
21 reason, for following the hobby and the sport that  
22 they feel is so beneficial for their family and so  
23 useful for themselves.

24 And they do not believe that they are  
25 criminals. And they are venting their frustration on

1 these people here and on the BLM. Well, it's good  
2 for them to hear this frustration, but there is truly  
3 not a lot that they can do, and there's nothing that  
4 these people can do about the things that we've been  
5 talking about. They are not the enemy -- certainly  
6 not the BLM or the Advisory Council. I'm not  
7 necessarily the enemy, per se. We are all victims of  
8 a bad law. That law is the Endangered Species Act.  
9 The law is badly conceived and badly enforced and  
10 badly interpreted. It is a law that puts weeds above  
11 humanity.

12       The true enemy of us and all these  
13 proceedings is that lawsuit.

14       The BLM is a government agency. They're  
15 only enforcing the laws. They must follow the law,  
16 and by pounding on them for following the law won't  
17 do anyone any good.

18       As far as this lawsuit is concerned,  
19 we've wasted a lot of time talking about that lawsuit  
20 today. I have been a party to that lawsuit. I was  
21 one of the people who personally signed my name to  
22 intervene on that lawsuit. I alone faced the judge  
23 without an attorney to discuss the issue. I had  
24 black hair then.

25       I learned a lot from that, and I can

1 tell you now to forget that lawsuit. The BLM has to  
2 the follow the law, and the most we could achieve by  
3 winning that lawsuit was to possibly delay that  
4 action. But they have to do computation, and if the  
5 expert at the time says that the weed is endangered,  
6 then, they have to close that area. Now, that's a  
7 short-term solution. We have to remember that.

8       They are following the law, and there is  
9 nothing we can get them to do to change it.

10       So how do we fight this? People asked me  
11 one time, "Well, how do we fight this?"

12       Well, once you start fighting the ESA,  
13 you got a fight on your hands. And you want to think  
14 about the people who lost that fight, you think you  
15 got the U.S. Army, including the captain that does  
16 the training session or the U.S. Seals who can't  
17 practice on the beaches anymore --

18       IAN DAVIDSON: Sir, your time is running  
19 out.

20       RICK FISHER: Okay. What I want to say  
21 is we fight the law by voting appropriately.  
22 Everybody votes. And after the new Administration  
23 comes in, we have to start fighting by writing the  
24 Administration and the Senators and the President  
25 that the law must be changed. We also fight within

1 the law by working to have the proper studies done,  
2 the proper science, and the proper litigation done so  
3 we can get our land back.

4 Thank you.

5 IAN DAVIDSON: Okay. Can we have our  
6 next set -- our group of five. I'm seeing duplicate  
7 names; so I'll move those to the back of this stack,  
8 and they can comment at that time.

9 First new face will be Wayne Todd.

10 JON HEALD: Hi. My name is Jon Heald.  
11 I'm from Santa Clarita, and I just have a short thing  
12 here to say.

13 Dealing with freedom is American. We  
14 can't have Government control our lives. In fact,  
15 that is why we are Americans, because we didn't want  
16 the Government to intervene.

17 I work in law enforcement. As a member,  
18 I've always confronted the situations -- well, I had  
19 to make decisions to enforce the law. As such, I see  
20 more and more freedoms taken or being controlled.  
21 They may be simple things. I don't really agree with  
22 them, but because it is a law, I'm required to  
23 enforce it.

24 I look back in the last 35 years in terms  
25 of the environment -- I've lived in Montana, lived in

1 Tennessee, lived in Japan. I've seen the Government  
2 put stricter and stricter controls on our lives.  
3 Not only in our day-to-day activities, but  
4 significant changes to use the public lands. That's  
5 the issue here today.

6 After being involved in the preparation  
7 for the DFC and SETA tactics that the protesters  
8 intended to use, I can see where a time may come  
9 that, as Americans, we may again rebell against  
10 Government control from the of our lives.

11 This land closure and all others that  
12 enforce -- reinforce the idea that policies in the  
13 future will be a reflection of what Americans truly  
14 want. That is freedom of choice without Government  
15 control.

16 That's all I have to say.

17 WAYNE TODD: Hi. I'm Wayne Todd. I'm  
18 from Gardengrove, California. I'm a member of CORVA,  
19 but I'm not in a speaking capacity representing  
20 CORVA.

21 I want to sell a story that involves the  
22 Endangered Species Act, off-highway trials, and it  
23 will all come together at the end if I do this  
24 right. I did not write this down, and I didn't bring  
25 all my information.

1           There's a trail in the Inyo Mountains of  
2 California. It is a road that goes to a multiple-use  
3 area.

4           Over the years, at the end of that road,  
5 I have found out that there is a satellite population  
6 of the Paiute cutthroat trout. It's been established  
7 at the end of that primitive road. I'm sure that  
8 primitive road is a major player in why it was there,  
9 the cost and effectiveness. It's the Paiute trout  
10 and it's more rare than the Golden trout. It's  
11 California's most rarest trout, if anyone can see  
12 that.

13          That road -- I'm going to lose my train  
14 of thought here. That road goes down to a  
15 multiple-use area. It's about every multiple use you  
16 can imagine. That trout has gone from endangered to  
17 threatened because of the efforts to reverse its  
18 decline. That trout will now -- is now possibly  
19 looking at possible fishing -- in the Silver King  
20 Creek range in the Sierra, Nevada, they are looking  
21 at possible catch and release in the future. That  
22 would be six miles inside a wilderness area where  
23 this benefit will be, you know, upkeep for the  
24 public.

25          What I want to say is that that primitive

1 road has been a major player in that trout going from  
2 endangered, to threatened, to possible because of one  
3 of our primitive roads that this has happened.

4       So management is a good thing. Primitive  
5 roads are not always bad. They don't always impact  
6 every species negatively. Sometimes they have very  
7 positive impacts.

8       So I just want to let the community know  
9 and the panel know that it is a big story. We need a  
10 balanced concept here on the use of our public lands,  
11 and I am obviously a off-highway trail advocate.

12       And I just want the people to know that  
13 when this trout does -- when it finally comes back to  
14 angling, the thanks to the multiple-use community --  
15 from the hiking and environmental community will be  
16 to call in for the closure of this road. I guarantee  
17 you it will happen in the future. That will be our  
18 thanks for them using that road to help bring an  
19 endangered species off of the endangered species list  
20 and into a situation where the hiking community  
21 will get something like this to work inside a  
22 wilderness area.

23       That's all I really have to say. I just  
24 want more balance --

25       (Applause.)

1 IAN DAVIDSON: I'm going to announce the  
2 next few speakers, and we'll take your comment up  
3 until 12:30. After that time, we will take more  
4 comments after the Cadiz proposal.

5 William White, Bill Dennis, Mike Pumar,  
6 Carole Anderson.

7 WILLIAM WHITE: Hi. William White,  
8 Long Beach, California. I don't know if anybody  
9 knows it or not, but Green Sticker went to paying  
10 most of these studies that were done.

11 Environmentalists put language in that says that the  
12 studies that they want done, we have to pay for.

13 I'd like to see some of that money being  
14 used for studies that favor us, not used as a knife  
15 in our back. And the other thing is who was asleep  
16 at the wheel when the Judge that's a member of  
17 Sierra Club gets to rule on off-road?

18 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: That's happened?

19 WILLIAM WHITE: That, in fact, happened.

20 MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: That should be  
21 thrown out right now. That's bull.

22 BILL DENNIS: My name is Bill Dennis. My  
23 residence is in Anaheim. I'm -- I am a member of the  
24 AMA, District 37, and I participate in off-road  
25 rides in the desert. I've been doing it for about



1 35 years, and I feel that my love of the activity is  
2 being threatened. And I really think that this is an  
3 injustice to the forefathers. There was a loss of  
4 life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

5       And being a veteran of the War and loving  
6 this country the way I do, I feel it's going to be a  
7 great disservice when you have to leave this country  
8 that you love to pursue our happiness because it's no  
9 longer allowed in the United States of America.

10       HAROLD ANDERSON: Hello. My name is  
11 Harold Anderson from Los Angeles. I would like to  
12 raise a couple points, a real simple one.

13       When you got -- when you guys are  
14 considering actions and so forth, I really think that  
15 we ought to be remembering people come before plants  
16 and animals. It sounds simple, and it kind of sounds  
17 like a cliché, but I'm listening to some of the  
18 things that have been posed today, and if we really  
19 want something different from the people -- we have  
20 taxes. We have values and so forth. Animals and  
21 plants don't recognize rights. We seem to be losing  
22 rights to people and giving rights to these things,  
23 animals and plants. They don't recognize those  
24 rights.

25       So if you guys could remember that before

1 a lot of these decisions were being made, I think

2 that a lot of these decisions would be different.

3 It may just be a coincidence, but I'm

4 noticing that Nick Ervin has not been here for any of

5 the public comments. He's one of the people that's a

6 member of Sierra Club and an environmentalist. Maybe

7 he had something else to do today, but I find that

8 kind of odd, when all the off-roaders show up, he's

9 not even here to listen to the comments.

10 IAN DAVIDSON: Nick was sick with an

11 upset stomach last night.

12 BUFORD CRITES: You can make what

13 judgment you'd like. We went out to dinner last

14 night, and a number of us who are on this Council

15 received something during our meal that was an added

16 bonus, and that added bonus kept me up all night.

17 And there are a few other people that were hit with

18 it. So you make whatever judgment you want.

19 HAROLD ANDERSON: Well, like I said,

20 maybe extenuating circumstances but you guys all are

21 here.

22 Just to conclude here real briefly, a

23 one-and-a-half-page summary of an entire business

24 plan has been that's going to affect all the

25 closures, that doesn't seem like enough of an OHV

1 off-road program. I think it's a very reasonable  
2 request to ask that the mitigation be put in if  
3 that's the plan that you're going to address. This  
4 stuff seems to be reachable.

5 Thank you.

6 MIKE PUMAR: Good evening. I'm  
7 Mike Pumar. I'm from Escondido, California.

8 DAC members and Director Pool, I'd like  
9 to thank you for allowing me to speak before you  
10 today.

11 I have four items I would like to  
12 discuss. This one's to the directors, to  
13 Director Pool. And unlike all the other people who  
14 are happy to see you here, I think I'm happy to see  
15 you here, but only your performance and time will  
16 tell how happy I am.

17 Two, the Website for Joshua Tree National  
18 Park lists the no-fee plant as being found and put in  
19 the park. That's on your Website. The plant is  
20 obviously is found in many other areas.

21 Number three, we discussed the financial  
22 impact that the closure of the Dunes will have on the  
23 off-road industry. But I would also like to point  
24 out that the individual families will suffer  
25 significant financial loss if these closures

1 continue.

2           And then we have thousands of dollars  
3 invested in our buggies, quads, trailers, and motor  
4 homes, and this is something that should be taken  
5 into consideration.

6           And, finally, I believe enough is enough.  
7 There has to come a time to fight for the thing that  
8 we believe strongly in. And I did not realize that  
9 public lands were meant to be used only in nature  
10 preserves and living landscapes for our use.

11

12           Thank you.

13           IAN DAVIDSON: Take our final group of  
14 five.

15           Greg Campbell, Bob Bartsch,  
16 Carlos Hernoso, Paul Flanders, Dave Tonkiss.

17           State your name for the record.

18           BOB BARTSCH: My name is Bob Bartsch, and  
19 I'm from Pasadena, California.

20           And I'm here today to encourage the  
21 Council to not endorse the recreational  
22 administration program. I'd like to tell you my  
23 feeling about this program, some general facts, such  
24 as the State of California Senate Assembly just  
25 passed a resolution against the recreational fee

1 administration. There have been five California  
2 counties that have also passed resolutions against  
3 this Board for a very good reason.

4       They have a firm understanding of this  
5 legislation, understanding that it was designed and  
6 brought forth by Corporate America for the purpose of  
7 commercializing all sorts of recreational facilities.  
8 That's the first part of this legislation.

9       The second part of the legislation is to  
10 eliminate all free access to public lands so  
11 commercial off-road was not available to the public.  
12 Free access is the biggest one.

13       This legislation enables all the use of  
14 the land. They're going charge us for fair market  
15 value for that access. And I don't know how you  
16 interpret that, but I interpret that as we can be  
17 charge whatever we are willing to pay.

18       And I want to point out to you that the  
19 Forest Service is now calling our national forest  
20 a -- well, they are calling all the visitor --  
21 they're calling visitors customers who set up  
22 business on public lands. If you believe that public  
23 lands belong to all the people, 90 percent of the  
24 people would prefer to live on public lands.

25       IAN DAVIDSON: Your two minute --

1           BOB BARTSCH: So in closing, I'd like to  
2 encourage you not to endorse this recommendary piece  
3 of legislation. It will take away a great piece of  
4 our freedom at the benefit of Corporate America.

5           Thank you.

6           IAN DAVIDSON: Greg Campbell.  
7 Carlos Hernoso. Paul Flanders.

8           PAUL FLANDERS: Hi. I'm Paul Flanders,  
9 Pasadena, California, also.

10          I'd like to thank the CDCA and Mr. Pool  
11 for putting on the hearing here, and I just want to  
12 say that I've enjoyed OHV use in the desert all my  
13 life. And my dad was riding here in the '30s on  
14 Harleys.

15          My concern is not directly with this  
16 settlement but with all the settlements and  
17 certainly the Center for Biological Diversity.

18          I'm with the American Motorcyclists  
19 Association, District 37 Dual Sport. And we put on  
20 tours for the rural areas of desert and mountains in  
21 California, Nevada, and Arizona.

22          On these tours, our guests stay on the  
23 prescribed route and available road or trail because  
24 of the length of these tours, and they want to finish  
25 before dark; so they're not out meandering off away

1 from the road.

2           We have a threatened species here, know  
3 as homo sapiens. And when we define the disturbance  
4 of habitats of the desert tortoise, that's called a  
5 "take." Then, we should also define a take as a  
6 disturbance of homo sapiens habitat.

7           I remember coming up to Barstow back in  
8 '93 or '94 on the other side of the freeway we had a  
9 meeting, or hearing, about the desert nicksnake  
10 (phonetic), and one of the things that I said then  
11 was: Does compromise mean take away half or the  
12 remaining half after five years? And I think that's  
13 what's happening here again.

14           IAN DAVIDSON: Sir, your time is running  
15 out.

16           PAUL FLANDERS: Okay. When we make a  
17 mistake, we get fined or penalized. When a  
18 government agency makes a mistake, then, we get fined  
19 or penalized.

20           And I'm upset that in D.C. they caved in,  
21 usurped the interest of the public input process when  
22 solicitors put BLM to decide to settle the lawsuit.  
23 I believe that we'll have a chance to fire that man  
24 maybe on November 3.

25           IAN DAVIDSON: Dave Tonkiss.

1           DAVE TONKISS: Dave Tonkiss. Glendale,  
2 California, also involved in AMA District 37  
3 Dual Sport. I've been the President of the  
4 organization for a couple years and have been  
5 involved in off-roading since 1968. Raised in the  
6 desert, seen what the land-use issues have brought us  
7 year after year.

8           Seems as if the -- when the free man had  
9 free legs and came on land, our recreation became  
10 increasingly more confined and eroded; and,  
11 apparently, as a dual-sport organization, we are  
12 necessarily limited to the use of existing roads and  
13 trails. But we can't go out and use a number of  
14 trails. We have to use what's available.

15          Our choices become increasingly limited  
16 as the land gets continually in the way.

17          I would hope now -- I'm going to employ  
18 this Commission here, this Board, to -- hopefully try  
19 and develop some higher degree of interagency  
20 cooperation in terms of kind of an equitable system  
21 of applying rules and regulations to the casual  
22 off-road user.

23          When I say the "casua off-road user,"  
24 that means also our own ability in this sport for  
25 promoters to bring a group or two of people to a



1 given area.

2           It's our group, and dual sport, itself,  
3 is a very low-impact sport. We follow single trails.  
4 We don't stray from any of those areas.

5           They are very interested, as Paul  
6 mentioned, to get to their destination by dark.  
7 That's kind of important.

8           One thing we are concerned about is  
9 the --

10          IAN DAVIDSON: Sir, your time is almost  
11 done.

12          DAVE TONKISS: -- agreements that are  
13 being arrived at behind closed doors. We'll  
14 eventually migrate north.

15          I hope everybody understands here that  
16 voting and money and letters is about the only thing  
17 that's going to make a difference through this whole  
18 thing.

19          IAN DAVIDSON: All right. Thank you.  
20 That concludes this portion of the public comment  
21 period. We will reconvene at 1:30.

22          I'd like to remind everybody that  
23 Greg Thompson of the Bureau of Land Management will  
24 be coming to this room to provide you with further  
25 information on -- on the Imperial situation.

1           Greg's a field manager in El Centro, and  
2 he'll be available for the next hour to discuss that  
3 with you, provide some handouts, I believe, and maybe  
4 some maps.

5           After that time, we reconvene here at  
6 1:30 and continue on with our agenda. Greg will be  
7 outside in the lobby to continue on with those  
8 discussions. Thank you.

9           ROY DENNER: Excuse me. I have a right  
10 to make a comment here before you folks leave.

11           I requested to the Chairman -- he didn't  
12 see fit to allow me to do this -- but before  
13 everybody adjourns, I apologize to the Council for  
14 allowing me a few more minutes before lunch, but in  
15 light of the public testimony, I feel obligated to  
16 try another go at this National OHV Management  
17 Strategy. And if it's a good cause, I see no reason  
18 why it has to be narrow and focused only on OHV  
19 effects.

20           Perhaps some of my fellow DAC members who  
21 feel that by focusing on OHV, they are being left  
22 out, would be happy with a motion -- something like  
23 this: I'd like to make a motion that DAC recommends  
24 To the BLM that this new National OHV Management  
25 Strategy had in it a provision to mitigate impact on

1 any form of recreation caused by implementation of  
2 this program.

3 (Applause.)

4 DENNIS CASEBIER: I'll second it.

5 IAN DAVIDSON: Discussion? Discussion?

6 IILENE ANDERSON: It occurs to me -- this  
7 is my understanding and perhaps somebody else here  
8 can enlighten all of us on this. It appears to me  
9 that mitigation is done when there is any plant under  
10 the Endangered Species laws or any predator in SECA.  
11 And so I don't know that even if you voted on this  
12 measure, if the legalities involved with enforcing  
13 those particular laws, in fact, would have an  
14 effect.

15 Can someone help with this?

16 IAN DAVIDSON: Okay. Call for the vote.  
17 Those in favor raise your right hand.

18 Those opposed?

19 (Applause.)

20 (Whereupon a luncheon recess was taken  
21 from 12:35 to 1:36.)

22 (Whereupon, a presentation was given on  
23 the Jawbone Canyon-Rudnick by  
24 Hector Villalobos)

25 (Whereupon, a presentation was given on

1 the Proposed Cadiz, Inc., Groundwater Storage and  
2 Dry-Year Supply program.)

3 IAN DAVIDSON: All right. Let's take a  
4 15-minute break -- 10-minute break. Be back here at  
5 ten till 4:00.

6 (Break taken from 4:40 to 4:51.)

7 IAN DAVIDSON: All right. I'd like to  
8 open up this meeting for public comment.

9 Bob Ellis.

10 Please state your name for the record.

11 BOB ELLIS: My name is it Bob Ellis.  
12 Today I'm representing a conservation environmental  
13 group interested in the protection of California and  
14 Nevada desert areas.

15 We have commented on the first draft of  
16 this plan. We're very interested, and we'll be  
17 commenting on the supplemental. And, of course, I  
18 haven't -- I have not yet read the supplemental.

19 I did get the chance to participate  
20 yesterday in the tour, and I was very happy to go out  
21 there. I got a lot of information. But, I guess, I  
22 was disturbed by what I did not see. And I did not  
23 see very much difference in this plan from the  
24 original plan.

25 Things on the order of -- that would

1 effect the concerns that I have about the feelings  
2 that I have when I go out there.

3       This plan currently is saying, "Well, we  
4 have two difficult problems here. We have a  
5 watering problem, and we have a problem about how  
6 much rechargeable water is replaceable if we take it  
7 out of the ground."

8       So we don't know the answers to these  
9 problems; so we're going to put a plan in place. But  
10 even though we don't know if there's going to be  
11 enough water to take out of there, we are going to  
12 launch a bill for this thing anyway and find out  
13 afterwards what the effect is.

14       And I think that's a backwards approach  
15 to this project. I would like to see some more work  
16 done ahead of time.

17       Let's find out, really, what the recharge  
18 is. We can disagree beforehand. And when the  
19 project is put in place and then discover that,  
20 perhaps, we made a mistake. And after we discover  
21 that, we already have in place 350 miles of pipeline,  
22 50 miles of which is across the canal on undisturbed  
23 desert.

24       When I've gone down that road, that road  
25 to the Ambi Dry Lake, to me, that is one of the

1 loneliest roads, you know. You hear Highway 50 in  
2 Nevada, that's supposed to be the loneliest road  
3 west. You have signs up. You go there now, there's  
4 a lot of cars. You go to Highway 66 -- we were out  
5 there yesterday -- they have a beautiful historical  
6 history. And everyone is trying to prevent changes  
7 to that and to restore some of the feelings of the  
8 past that you get when you got out there. And, of  
9 course, the trains keep going by, and they keep going  
10 by more and more often.

11       But when you turn off on to  
12 Ambi Dry Lake Road, you begin to have one of these  
13 not-so-common desert experiences.

14       When I first came out here a few years  
15 ago with my wife, we had a two-wheel drive. We  
16 had never been down a dirt road before, and we  
17 weren't sure if we were going to make it. And we got  
18 down the roadway, and all of a sudden we saw this  
19 very mysterious, slow-moving train coming along  
20 across the desert. And it's the Arizona going "chug,  
21 chug, chug, chug." A whole lot of four engines  
22 moving very slow, and we called it the "ghost train."  
23 And we got a little further and we saw the some  
24 buildings and derelict kinds of things from the past  
25 are around that dry lake, and the whole road is just

1 filled up with mystery.

2       And I think that that is an opportunity  
3 that is still there for people from the city that  
4 want to come out. They want to take a drive. They  
5 want to do a back-country drive. They want to have a  
6 little, small adventure, and that's an opportunity.

7       Now, if we put a power line down that  
8 road, which is what the proposal is, 42 feet high --  
9 there's currently no power. A power line of a modern  
10 design divides your view of the desert, and you don't  
11 see those trains the way we saw it there.

12       When you get to Chubba (phonetic) or you  
13 get a little further beyond there and you start  
14 looking off at the Iron Mountains, those mountains  
15 are very mysterious. And there across the other side  
16 of that dry lake, you have an area which is  
17 undisturbed. And that's a view I'd like to  
18 preserve.

19       So I wanted you all to think about the  
20 aspect of this project which would irreversibly  
21 affect the desert.

22       So as you look at that, think about that.  
23 This is Route 66 country. This is a country we're  
24 trying to look at from a 50-year-old or 40-year-old  
25 point of view, and I'd hate to see it getting too

1 modernized with a power line. That would be a big  
2 disturbance.

3 I would prefer that if it had to be  
4 built, let's use something along the existing  
5 railroad where we already have a road. Let's put the  
6 pipeline above ground next to the big power line  
7 that's already there.

8 And if the project needed -- because the  
9 other thing that bothers me was if we have concerns  
10 here about the amount of surplus water only for the  
11 ground. And if you have concerns about the amount of  
12 rechargeable water available subsequent to those 15  
13 years to take out, it seems to me that the value of  
14 this project and the value that we would be getting  
15 for trading away some of the desert qualities is not  
16 sufficient to have this go forward.

17 So I'll be looking forward to commenting  
18 on the plan. And maybe my concerns are wrong. I'm  
19 very happy to see a strong, alternate plan.

20 Thank you.

21 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

22 Next speaker Gus Lizade.

23 State your name for the record, please.

24 GUS LIZADE: Gus Lizade.

25 Thank you for your time. My name is



1 Gus Lizade. I'm from Chambless, Chambless,  
2 California. Chambless is located about 90 miles from  
3 Barstow, here. It's about -- to give you a better  
4 example, it is approximately four miles away from the  
5 Enos Land Company's wells, and I'm very concerned.

6 Chambless has been pumping water for near  
7 80 years, and it has a two-well water system that's  
8 been pumping water for 80 years. And I'm very  
9 concerned with the future of Chambless.

10 I recently had a conversation with  
11 Jack Safety from the planning of that the  
12 Metropolitan Water District, and I asked Jack --  
13 I said, "Jack, tell me what's going to happen to poor  
14 little Chambless that's four miles away from your  
15 cows when you put traction wells in? What's going to  
16 happen when the wells run dry?"

17 His response was, "Well, you're going to  
18 fill out a complaint, and we're going to have to  
19 supply you with water."

20 My second question was, "Jack, what's  
21 going to happen to my water rights? I've been  
22 pumping water for 80 years. You've been around for  
23 only a few years. What am I going to do?"

24 He had no response.

25 Just for your -- some legal advice.

1 I have seeked counsel in water and land, and this is  
2 what brings me here before you today is that, you  
3 know, I have an historical management -- I have an  
4 historical management on Route 66. I have a  
5 business. And for this plan, I need 90 days. I  
6 would like 90 days to get legal advice for asking  
7 these questions.

8 Now, at this time, I've disclosed the  
9 plan on how Chambless could come back to life.

10 Can I have that 90 days?

11 IAN DAVIDSON: I'm not sure what you can  
12 seek in 90 days.

13 MOLLY BRADY: For the review for comment,  
14 we have -- there's many issues that we have to  
15 resolve, legal issues with water laws, and they keep  
16 on coming up. I'm very concerned because I have  
17 attorneys that come up with flag after, flag after,  
18 flag after, flag.

19 And they say, "Gus, we need more time."  
20 And I said, "I'm going to go and request at least  
21 90 days."

22 Can I have 90 days to finish my  
23 investigation and to better comment on the situation?

24 MOLLY BRADY: What is your last name,  
25 again?

1 GUS LIZADE: Lizade, L-i-z-a-d-e.

2 IAN DAVIDSON: Lizade?

3 GUS LIZADE: Yes, sir.

4 MOLLY BRADY: That's what I want to say.

5 I have my own field manager here.

6 We certainly will take into consider- --

7 take into consideration your thoughts on extension on

8 the -- I should state that the Advisory Council

9 doesn't make that decision on the extension. They

10 don't make a decision. Any decision on that would be

11 based on consultation between the Lead State Agency

12 and policy and stuff.

13 Thank you for that comment and request.

14 GUS LIZADE: Thank you. But I am

15 requesting it, and I want it to go on the record.

16 MOLLY BRADY: Right.

17 GUS LIZADE: Thank you very much.

18 IAN DAVIDSON: Adams.

19 IILENE ANDERSON: Well, in light of some

20 of the other recommendations that we made today with

21 extensions to the public review of the documents, I

22 would like to make a motion that we extend the review

23 on this document to 90 days.

24 BUFORD CRITES: So seconded.

25 IAN DAVIDSON: Any discussion?

1 KATHY DAVIS: I guess I need to

2 understand what we would be accomplishing by

3 extending our review time.

4 THE COURT REPORTER: I can hardly hear

5 you. I'm sorry. Can you bring the mike in a little

6 closer? Thank you.

7 IILENE ANDERSON: Well, what is our

8 intent to accomplish with these -- the extension of

9 this for another 90 days versus continuing on with

10 the process. What will it result in?

11 DENNIS CASEBIER: Could I comment?

12 On another topic today, there was a

13 30-day period, and it was the sentiment of the

14 Commission that 30 days wasn't long enough. And

15 this -- Gus' comment here just sort of led right into

16 some side discussions that have taken place here.

17 That's -- that's why everybody is jumping

18 on it. The 30 days might not be enough to

19 comment on something of that complexity. And Gus'

20 statement just sort of reinforced that.

21 MOLLY BRADY: Yes. Granted, the current

22 time period is 45 days; so this would effectively

23 double the comment period.

24 IAN DAVIDSON: Jim?

25 JIM REDDY: Yeah. Maybe I can answer.

1 What might be accomplished is somebody who usually  
2 isn't applying for the permit, there's always the  
3 frustration that the Government gives us short  
4 periods of time to review. But if we submit  
5 something, no matter what the official review time  
6 is, it takes much longer.

7 What I think we seek in here is that a  
8 reasonable review of anything takes longer than  
9 45 days. So I think 90 days is a very reasonable  
10 period of time. It takes us time to read it, to  
11 review it, and to comment on it. And what we're  
12 trying to accomplish will be to give you, the public,  
13 an honest chance to review. It's not -- 45 days is  
14 not enough time.

15 IAN DAVIDSON: Any quick discussion?

16 MARILYN BEARSLEE: If I understood Iilene  
17 correctly, she is proposing an additional 45 days on  
18 the existing 45 days; so it wouldn't be an additional  
19 90 day. It's 90 total; am I correct?

20 MOLLY BRADY: That's correct.

21 IAN DAVIDSON: Further discussion?

22 Call for a vote.

23 Those in favor of the extension of  
24 45 days for the comment period. All in favor, please  
25 raise your hand.

1           Those opposed?

2           GUS LIZADE: Thank you. You're very  
3 kind.

4           IAN DAVIDSON: We have one more speaker,  
5 John Bezzant.

6           JOHN BEZZANT: Hi. I'm John Bezzant,  
7 Vice President of the Resources Group with Catellus.  
8 As most of you know, we conveyed land, with the help  
9 of the law whose conservancy is about 400,000 acres  
10 that belong to the Park Services, earlier this year.  
11 We remain, however, the largest private landowner in  
12 the basin affected by this project.

13           And we have continued concerns over this  
14 project that we have expressed privately in both  
15 metropolitan communities and will continue to express  
16 those over the comment period, however along it may  
17 be.

18           I would, specifically, though, for this  
19 group, like to address one issue, and that is the  
20 issue of oversizing.

21           We have already touched on that in some  
22 way. And the concern that we have -- and this  
23 concern, apparently, is my own personal concern after  
24 a very cursory review of this document that I got  
25 yesterday -- and that is the structure of the CRT and

1 the oversized groups.

2       If you read -- we've heard different  
3 accounts for different levels of commitment, I guess,  
4 at least that I've heard, of what BLM's going to do  
5 or what we BLM's right and roll will be within the  
6 oversight committees.

7       And I think Ken's quote on it was that,  
8 you know, we kind of -- the BLM would be the ultimate  
9 voice. And all this explanation is, is that through  
10 your -- this -- the Cadiz -- through the right-of-way  
11 process that BLM would hold ultimate voice and  
12 control over the project. If that is the case, it's  
13 the right way to bring about that part of this  
14 document. So it can be review by the public so you  
15 can see what the conditions are on that right-of-way  
16 agreement.

17       But as we get -- as you look at the  
18 document and actually read it, both on the TRT, as  
19 well as the BMG -- and I love the abbreviations --  
20 but it says, "Interior Department's role" and "TRT  
21 has not yet been determined," but would likely not be  
22 more than, you know. Now, this gentlemen -- he's  
23 left, but his concern regarding wells and the trigger  
24 mechanism for how that works, if there isn't an  
25 impact on a neighborhood -- well, whether it's ours

1 or whether it's his or whoever else -- it is out

2 there.

3 That trigger impact comes back through  
4 the TRT. The TRT decides whether that is a project  
5 that has a big impact or not.

6 IF BLM is an observer, non-voting  
7 observer, on that committee, and it is made up of  
8 metropolitan Cadiz, I don't want to speculate as to  
9 what the votes would be in advance.

10 But we've had concerns as a landowner and  
11 potential operator of wells on our properties, as to  
12 what the decision would be as to the impacts that are  
13 occurring in our wells. And so it's a concern on our  
14 part; I think it needs to be a concern on your part.  
15 I would like to see it directed from this committee  
16 to BLM that whatever the legal issues are, that they  
17 be resolved as to what the control mechanisms are for  
18 this project because BLM, if it is going to drain a  
19 pipeline -- and I heard something new today that I  
20 have not heard before, which is that BLM is  
21 considering grant right-of-way for the actual storage  
22 of the water underneath BLM lands.

23 If that is the case, we need to see those  
24 documents; BLM ought to be the ultimate arbiter of  
25 what's going on out there and carry it out,



1 maintaining some level of control.

2 Thanks.

3 IAN DAVIDSON: Discussion?

4 MOLLY BRADY: John, thank you for your  
5 comments.

6 Also, in the document, if you read  
7 further on in the decision-making process in that  
8 same chapter, in Section 3.10.3, that "If consensus  
9 cannot be reached by the BMG, the BLM will receive  
10 ultimate control over the enforcement of terms and  
11 conditions of any right-of-way grants and issues so  
12 that if there is a consensus, the BLM is an  
13 observer."

14 I'm not quite sure what that means.

15 JOHN BEZZANT: But if they reach a  
16 consensus that you're not part of, what difference  
17 does that make?

18 MOLLY BRADY: We make a de- -- we make a  
19 final decision one way or the other.

20 JOHN BEZZANT: Why is there --

21 MOLLY BRADY: It's not terribly clear  
22 here that we would make a decision in the -- on those  
23 issues relative to the monitoring of the  
24 Management Plan.

25 JOHN BEZZANT: Why is that -- why does

1 that committee exist, then?

2 MOLLY BRADY: We'll get into that. I  
3 would appreciate the comments on that in writing  
4 also, John. My -- my bottom line is that the BLM  
5 will makement final decision on this issue.

6 IAN DAVIDSON: Is there anybody else from  
7 the public --

8 IRA GWYNN: Yes. I've submitted a card  
9 at 10:00, and apparently you don't have it.

10 IAN DAVIDSON: There was another card  
11 made with some names. You're willing to speak; you  
12 don't need a card. Is this on the Cadiz?

13 IRA GWYNN: Yes. And I wrote on the top  
14 like I was asked to by the lovely young lady in the  
15 uniform.

16 My name is Ira Gwynn. I'm a resident of  
17 Barstow and have been for many years.

18 We took -- our museum went out there two  
19 years -- a couple three years ago, and we had a  
20 visit. And they gave us a barbecue, and they gave us  
21 a -- bottles of very pure water. And they told us it  
22 was many thousands of years old, very precious. And  
23 they certainly didn't want that nasty trash from  
24 Los Angeles coming in next door to them and possibly  
25 contaminating that water supply.

1           And everybody agreed that that was a  
2 terrible thing to -- to have. And it did not happen  
3 for possibly other reasons.

4           The fact of the matter is, now,  
5 apparently, we are going to allow the Colorado River  
6 to be mixed with this Cadiz River, which has taken  
7 thousands of years to come along. And as I  
8 understand, it's going to be pumped up and sent to  
9 Los Angeles where they certainly need it.

10          Certainly the Metropolitan Water  
11 District, whom I've worked with in the past, has a  
12 tremendous job to take care of 17-, 18 million people  
13 today.

14          And in 50 years, when this project is  
15 over, I think that it's probably going to be at least  
16 double that amount or possibly more, given growth  
17 rate, population, et cetera.

18          My concern is -- one of our concerns is  
19 that they're worried about their constituency. I  
20 don't believe they're taking into consideration the  
21 constituency of the Mojave Desert. That means  
22 Barstow; that means the people up and down the road.

23          Frankly, regardless if this is a  
24 supervisorial district of the County of Los Angel- --  
25 the County of San Bernardino, I am not satisfied that

1 the interests of the desert in this particular case  
2 have been adequately addressed.

3       As a matter of fact, two nights ago, many  
4 of the people running for office in the county and  
5 the city had a meeting here at this college, and,  
6 when asked what the major issues of the desert were,  
7 to a man and woman, the answer was "Jobs. We need  
8 jobs here."

9       People would like to stay in this area,  
10 and they would like to see it grow. You have to have  
11 jobs. You have to have land. You have to have a  
12 resource. You have to have an emergency work supply,  
13 and you have to have water.

14       Now, I don't see anything in this project  
15 that does one single thing to help supply water or to  
16 provide future water supplies for the desert area.

17       This is a project to help Los Angeles,  
18 and God knows they need it, and the districts in that  
19 area. And's that's a very serious issue. I mean, I  
20 know these folks are doing the best they can. The  
21 politicians are beating them over the heads on one  
22 hand, "Keep the rates low. Keep the water here."

23       And it's not even watering the lawns,  
24 folks, flushing toilets. This is minor. It's  
25 industry that takes most of the water in the

1 Los Angeles area, and industry is not going to come  
2 in there unless the water rates are cheap and it's  
3 good water, and they can get as much as they -- as  
4 much as they can possibly use.

5       And all of that is part of their  
6 interests. I don't think we have to talk about  
7 Bishop, Lone Pine, and the eastern part of the  
8 Sierras. We know what state they're in now because  
9 they don't have water. There's other reasons, of  
10 course. They're out in the middle of nowhere.

11       But the fact of the matter is, they will  
12 not grow because they do not have water and they are  
13 not likely to the get it in the future.

14       My concern is that the Los Angeles  
15 Metropolitan Water District is the big dog on the  
16 block, no question about it. This is where the votes  
17 are; this is where the money is. And once this  
18 project is put into effect, 50 years from now I  
19 envision -- well, I don't think any of us will be  
20 here. In any event -- but I can almost guess that  
21 that will be a straw sucking the water right down to  
22 where it's needed by the most number of people.

23       I'm prudential, I'm afraid. I prefer  
24 that this water and this -- a project be initiated,  
25 this one is putting our interests into

1 consideration.

2       When I grew up here, there were trees  
3 along the Mojave. There were cottonwoods all up and  
4 down here, and people used to camp in Barstow near  
5 the cottonwood trees. It's not there. Population  
6 has sucked that water dry, and the further are you  
7 down the street from the water source, the less  
8 you're going to get. That's the way it is.

9       Now, this is an interesting plan, and  
10 certainly there's been a lot of technical work going  
11 on to try and mitigate all the concerns. I'm sorry,  
12 but I'm a skeptic. I see what they want to do, and  
13 certainly it drops down a foot. "My goodness, we're  
14 going to stop pumping right away."

15       Excuse me? When the taps don't run in  
16 Los Angeles, someone's going to make sure that  
17 they're open.

18       I don't think it's a great idea. I think  
19 this is a resource that should be maintained for this  
20 area, first. And then if there's anything left, we  
21 can look at the other areas. But we have this  
22 resource in the desert, and I think it should be  
23 considered to be used here.

24       Thank you very much.

25       IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

1 Anybody else from the audience wishing to  
2 speak on this issue?

3 I see no one.

4 We'll close the public hearing at this  
5 time, and on that issue -- and we will continue on  
6 with any discussion from Council.

7 Any further discussion? I see none.

8 At this time we will reopen the public  
9 hearing and continue on with issues related to OHV.  
10 And we have another speaker card in regards to road  
11 closure.

12 So would the gentleman who's been waiting  
13 the longest please step up and --

14 WAYNE MOORADIAN: Thank you, again.

15 IAN DAVIDSON: Would you state your name,  
16 again.

17 WAYNE MOORADIAN: Wayne Mooradian. This  
18 is directed towards Molly.

19 BLM moneys Green Stickered, you know, the  
20 moneys that we send to the State of California for  
21 off-highway vehicle uses. What's going on with those  
22 moneys. I mean, is there not about 78 million in  
23 there right now?

24 I'm speaking to Molly.

25 Well, those moneys are supposed to be for

1 off-highway vehicle use and the benefits that the --  
2 anything off-highway vehicle oriented, that's what  
3 the Green Sticker Fund was originated for in '72.

4 MOLLY BRADY: The money that we received,  
5 we use for off-highway vehicle use -- for example, I  
6 received O and M for several years. I can't  
7 remember. And we also hired park rangers to do  
8 education and outreach, and my program happens to be  
9 one of the smallest ones of the Needles field office.  
10 Of course, you have an extensive program, and I'd  
11 rather not speak to that. The back roads in El  
12 Centro that they -- it was a very expensive program  
13 in El Centro.

14 And we are -- and we keep the records,  
15 and we are audited by the State on how we spend our  
16 money.

17 WAYNE MOORADIAN: But those are from our  
18 Green Sticker Fund?

19 MOLLY BRADY: Yes. There is a problem,  
20 this year. But, yes.

21 WAYNE MOORADIAN: Now, when you asked  
22 this, with regard to this lawsuit, which essentially  
23 is all of us, is that money that we are -- is being  
24 used to sue us, in other words, the Plaintiff's  
25 attorneys. Is that coming out of our Green Sticker



1 Fund?

2 MOLLY BRADY: Absolutely not. No.

3 WAYNE MOORADIAN: So no Green Sticker

4 moneys are being used against the OHV community; is

5 that correct?

6 MOLLY BRADY: Unless the Commission has

7 given money out to the Center For Biological

8 Diversity, no.

9 I don't really understand how you're

10 asking that because the Center uses their funds in

11 the --

12 WAYNE MOORADIAN: Well, my understanding

13 is that they can also use off-highway vehicle funds

14 to fund various, you might say, programs to inspect

15 us, in other words, to check on the fallout of the

16 critters that are running around.

17 MOLLY BRADY: Well, beginning this year,

18 in particular, we're being required by the State to

19 implement an extensive monitoring, and we started it

20 last year with a monitoring program and we would have

21 to submit that monitoring.

22 WAYNE MOORADIAN: But that is within the

23 BLM? It's not from outside?

24 MOLLY BRADY: It's not from outside.

25 WAYNE MOORADIAN: So no one --

1 MOLLY BRADY: Well, we didn't --

2 WAYNE MOORIDIAN: The Sierra Club is not  
3 using our moneys against us?

4 MOLLY BRADY: Exactly. Exactly.

5 WAYNE MOORIDIAN: That's what I'm asking  
6 for. All right. Thank you.

7 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

8 Anything else following up on the OHV.

9 Don Fife.

10 DON FIFE: Yes. Don Fife from  
11 Lucerne Valley.

12 I spent eight years on this  
13 Desert Advisory Board. Some people are still around  
14 that might remember. And I have an update on one of  
15 the infamous articles dealing with roads.

16 Some of you have seen it, probably, or  
17 probably haven't seen it. Probably, some of the new  
18 faces haven't seen it. It's called, "When A Road Is  
19 Not A Road."

20 Or it's been a really instant wilderness  
21 when a road is not a road. Now, I have -- I brought  
22 along a hundred copies, but they disappeared out  
23 front. So I have some copies here. I have three  
24 left. And that's -- you'll have to make a copy for  
25 each of the Board members.

1           And then I have another article I'd like  
2 to submit for the record, as well as "When A Road Is  
3 Not A Road." "America: Foreclosed," by Wayne Hage.  
4 And these deal with basic philosophy in road  
5 closures.

6           I think it is the Wayne Hage analysis of  
7 what's happening to our public lands and why. One of  
8 the reasons why we're closing is it's very important  
9 to every American citizen, and that is that our  
10 public lands are being used as collateral for our  
11 national debt. And basically, the cleaning of files  
12 and closing them up; so I won't belabor that because  
13 I'm going to leave you with -- I've got -- I've got  
14 15 of those.

15           I would like to mention that "When A Road  
16 Is Not A Road" is based on the U.S. Geological  
17 def- -- Survey definition of roads. There are five  
18 classes of roads when the Wilderness Act was passed  
19 that were identified by the U.S. Geological Survey,  
20 the official map-making agency of the  
21 United States Government.

22           And Class 1 was primarily high rate  
23 federal and state; Class 2 was secondary, high rate  
24 state, county; 3 -- Class 3, light duty aid and  
25 improved; and Class 4 was unimproved or roads that

1 had been rated and not maintained.

2       Of course, those latter four, as many of  
3 you know, became ways and routes of travel, and  
4 suddenly we had millions of acres around the West  
5 that were roads.

6       If we look at the U.S. Geological Survey  
7 map, you would find that these areas were full of  
8 roads. In fact, some of these roads --  
9 Senator Wilson found 55 miles of roads that were not  
10 on the map in his office, and the Desert Bill was  
11 passed.

12       Anyway, I'm not going to take up a lot of  
13 your time because I've got this stuff in print, and  
14 I'd like to put it on the record and leave.

15       IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

16       Do we have any other comments from the  
17 audience?

18       Harriet, you're not going to speak to us  
19 today?

20       HARRIET: No. I'm going to be quiet.

21       IAN DAVIDSON: Anyone else? Okay.

22       I'm going to close the public hearing,  
23 and we have a few other housekeeping items before us.

24       BUFORD CRITES: Mr. Chairman, I had would  
25 like to consider a point of procedure of one of our

1 most back-planned problem.

2 IAN DAVIDSON: All right. Let's -- can  
3 we talk about future meeting dates, agenda topics,  
4 et cetera, et cetera, for those people who are going  
5 to be continuing on the Board?

6 DENNIS CASEBIER: Mr. Chairman?

7 IAN DAVIDSON: Yes. I'm sorry.  
8 Go ahead.

9 DENNIS CASEBIER: I'm wondering if we  
10 should plan a future date and place at this time. I  
11 know we'd like to do that. We're losing five of our  
12 members, and we'll be adding five new ones to those  
13 who will be replaced. And this changeover, I'm  
14 wondering if we can make a decision such as this  
15 because these five people would not have a chance to  
16 be in on the place, and this time we drove quite a  
17 distance from Barstow to Needles area to -- for our  
18 days' outing, and maybe it would be better if that  
19 was planned around the -- by the -- would be better  
20 addressed to the district offices plans at this  
21 time.

22 MOLLY BRADY: My only reaction to that is  
23 that sometimes a good idea for us to at least have  
24 set a target date that we can shoot towards -- it  
25 does, in some respects, depending on how quickly we

1 get our nominations, selections made. Last year, I  
 2 think it was late February that we finally had our  
 3 first Advisory Council meeting.

4         Given that there's elections, this might  
 5 be a little more mixed up and slowed down. Perhaps  
 6 we could look at a March date just as a target date.

7         Would that -- that's my -- that's just  
 8 sort of my initial reaction in terms of trying to at  
 9 least find some -- some date that might work.

10        IAN DAVIDSON: You have to come up to the  
 11 mike and speak 'cause we have a court reporter. So --

12        MEMBER FROM THE CROWD: Mr. Chairman,  
 13 this would be a point of order. I question the  
 14 ability of the Council to "adjourn," in quotations,  
 15 without setting a future date.

16        IAN DAVIDSON: Okay.

17        KATHY DAVIS: What do our bylaws say?

18        IAN DAVIDSON: That's a good question.

19        KATHY DAVIS: And I think we have to  
 20 abide by our bylaws.

21        MOLLY BRADY: I don't believe I'll have a  
 22 problem.

23        BUFORD CRITES: (Nonaudible response.)

24        IAN DAVIDSON: My parliamentary procedure  
 25 consultant says that's normally -- that it's not

1 required, to set a future meeting date. I'm

2 waiting --

3 IILENE ANDERSON: I'm going to suggest

4 that they -- a date of March 9 or 10.

5 IAN DAVIDSON: I'll second that.

6 MARILYN BEARSLEE: I think we ought to

7 try to set a tentative date. If something happens in

8 the future and they're going to have to change it, so

9 be it. But we should agreed on something today.

10 IAN DAVIDSON: March 9 and 10.

11 MARILYN BEARSLEE: March 9 and 10.

12 IAN DAVIDSON: Motion seconded?

13 IILENE ANDERSON Second.

14 IAN DAVIDSON: Any discussion on that?

15 All right. Let's vote.

16 Everybody that's in favor of that, raise

17 your right hand.

18 That's unanimous. We have a tentative

19 March 9 and 10 meeting day for the next -- next

20 meeting.

21 Any desired agenda topics for that

22 meeting or a venue or location?

23 MARILYN BEARSLEE: (Nonaudible response.)

24 IILENE ANDERSON: Well, I would suggest

25 that in light of some of the issues that we talked

1 about today, you know, managers' reports, and  
 2 considering we haven't been to El Centro in a while,  
 3 I think that might be an area to revisit.

4 IAN DAVIDSON: I'd like to recommend a  
 5 camping trip at Zeizer's. Where's Duran at? No.  
 6 I'll withdraw that.

7 MOLLY BRADY: Okay. I'll second the  
 8 motion as to El Centro.

9 IILENE ANDERSON: It was more of a  
 10 discussion, but I'll make it a motion.

11 MOLLY BRADY: Second.

12 IAN DAVIDSON: Discussion?

13 I'll call for the vote. The place is  
 14 El Centro raise your hand.

15 Those opposed?

16 That passes.

17 Any other housekeeping duties?

18 Buford.

19 BUFORD CRITES: One quick one. Just for  
 20 the record, the motion that was made as we were  
 21 adjourning this morning for noon to add the impacts  
 22 issue into consideration for the off-highway vehicle  
 23 strategy would not meet the test of our own  
 24 procedure. In order to do something like that, you  
 25 first have to have a motion for reconsideration.



1           Secondly, that motion has to be made  
2 second to a variety of specific procedures and an  
3 alternative motion has to be made, and all that has  
4 to be done during session.

5           Those issues not being met, I suspect  
6 that's an issue that the Advisory Council should  
7 place on the agenda in El Centro so that considering  
8 the economic faction, that we could meet the same as  
9 the following procedures.

10          IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

11          ISABELLA BURNS: I have a question on  
12 that.

13          IAN DAVIDSON: Ms. Burns.

14          ISABELLA BURNS: Did we recess, or did we  
15 adjourn for that.

16          KATHY DAVIS: We recessed. We haven't  
17 adjourned the meeting yet.

18          ISABELLA BURNS: Is this the same  
19 sensation.

20          BUFORD CRITES: Well, we'll throw that  
21 issue in there. Whatever it is, if it's necessarily  
22 something that you can come back and ask.

23          IAN DAVIDSON: Who's going to look into  
24 that issue?

25          KATHY DAVIS: Should be our staff.

1 IAN DAVIDSON: Staff?

2 MOLLY BRADY: Let me see if I understand.

3 You want us to go back and review and determine  
4 whether that was a legitimate motion?

5 Okay. We'll have someone on staff check  
6 that and determine whether that was a legitimate  
7 motion. If not, it will be dropped as a motion that  
8 passed, but it will still be in the record. Although  
9 it may not be passed as a motion by this group, it  
10 will still be in the record.

11 DENNIS CASEBIER: But since we are still  
12 in the same session, couldn't we fix it? I mean,  
13 I'm not a parliamentary -- a parliamentarian. Why  
14 don't we just fix it, and then we don't have to do  
15 all this.

16 MARILYN BEARSLEE: 'Cause we could not  
17 have everybody here.

18 MOLLY BRADY: I'm not a parliamentarian  
19 either.

20 DENNIS CASEBIER: So just tell us how to  
21 fix it.

22 IAN DAVIDSON: Go ahead, please.

23 KATHY DAVIS: I was not here for the  
24 lunch session; so I'm not exactly sure what you are  
25 talking about, about by him. But the question of

1 whether you recessed at lunch, recess versus  
 2 adjournment, you recess for lunch. The adjournment  
 3 isn't until the end or the conclusion of the agenda.

4 And even if you wanted to make a motion  
 5 and you wanted reconsideration, it's within the rules  
 6 to always have it at the very next established  
 7 meeting; so it wouldn't change anything to have  
 8 you -- you can do it that way. And that's still  
 9 within the rules, as well.

10 DENNIS CASEBIER: What happens to the --  
 11 the motion passed.

12 KATHY DAVIS: It passed. Okay. And why  
 13 is it being questioned?

14 DENNIS CASEBIER: Well, it -- because it  
 15 had -- it had been considered earlier --

16 KATHY DAVIS: Yes.

17 DENNIS CASEBIER: -- in some form.

18 KATHY DAVIS: Uh-huh.

19 DENNIS CASEBIER: And it started out --

20 KATHY DAVIS: And so then you had  
 21 reconsideration?

22 DENNIS CASEBIER: It's not called a  
 23 "reconsideration."

24 KATHY DAVIS: Was it like a new motion?

25 DENNIS CASEBIER: It was like a new

1 motion.

2 KATHY DAVIS: So then what would be the  
3 issue of why it wasn't an acceptable motion?

4 IAN DAVIDSON: Because we recessed.

5 KATHY DAVIS: That has nothing to do with  
6 it. You took a bathroom break. I mean, at that time  
7 we didn't adjourn the meeting, and you still had the  
8 option of that discussion as an agenda item.

9 There's a number of times that this Board  
10 of Supervisors, if we make a motion, it dies because  
11 of the lack of a second, or it's a two/two, or a tie  
12 vote. We step back, we can either choose to table  
13 it, we can choose to bring it back, or we can choose  
14 to make another motion that we feel will be a little  
15 more acceptable and presentable for it to pass.

16 DENNIS CASEBIER: At the same meeting?

17 KATHY DAVIS: Yes.

18 DENNIS CASEBIER: That's what we did.

19 KATHY DAVIS: Then it shouldn't be a  
20 problem. I mean, you can verify that in the rules,  
21 but I don't see that to be a problem. I don't see  
22 that as long as we've been in practice.

23 IAN DAVIDSON: All right.

24 Randy?

25 RANDY RISTER: Are we through with this

1 item?

2 IAN DAVIDSON: I think so.

3 Okay. Just a second, Randy.

4 MARILYN BEARSLEE: I am certainly one of

5 the ones that had a problem with the way that that

6 was handled. There was a great deal of confusion

7 going on. We had recessed from the meeting, and Roy

8 took it upon himself to make a motion while there was

9 a great deal of confusion going on.

10 The other reason that Roy made that

11 motion was that Nick Ervin had to leave.

12 When Nick was here, we had a five to

13 five; when Nick left, it became a five to four. I

14 think that that was outside the rules of

15 Roberts Rules. It certainly wasn't a very political

16 thing to do.

17 JIM REDDY: I can answer the Board,

18 also. I changed my vote; so there was another vote

19 for it; so if it was five/five before, it would have

20 passed even with -- the vote didn't pass because I

21 changed my vote. Because he changed the motion.

22 So I changed my vote.

23 DENNIS CASEBIER: I also changed my vote.

24 IAN DAVIDSON: All right.

25 ROY DENNER: But Marilyn, I'm sorry

1 you're assuming that I did that because Nick left. I  
2 thought I made it clear before I changed the motion  
3 that I was trying to pick up two more votes so it  
4 would pass. I did not know what the count was. I  
5 assumed the count was -- would have made the motion  
6 pass whether Nick was here or not. The fact that two  
7 votes changed makes that clear.

8           It did not have to do with Nick being  
9 here or not being here whether the motion passed.

10           KATHY DAVIS: And that's an appropriate  
11 process. If the motion dies and there's another  
12 option to put it back onto the table to come to the  
13 conclusion that it will be a consensus -- it sounds  
14 like that's what you did. And a number of times  
15 there will be a recess at the Board of Supervisors  
16 meeting where we're going to ask for additional  
17 information and give it a fair look if we think that  
18 there's a way to reach a consensus and move forward.  
19 I don't even know what the issue was. But that is  
20 the legal process with the Board of Supervisors.

21           IAN DAVIDSON: As I said, I mean, there's  
22 a number of ways to address an issue and then bring  
23 it back for further discussion, and as long as I have  
24 been involved in this Council, there's always been a  
25 receptive Board for that.

1           My duty as the Chairman, my main  
2 function, is to control the meeting, especially with  
3 the meeting we had here today where there's quite a  
4 number of people who want to speak, and also my job  
5 is to, you know, control the Council.

6           KATHY DAVIS: How do you think you're  
7 doing?

8           IAN DAVIDSON: Well, I think in that  
9 situation, I was not appreciative of the way that  
10 that was handled. And there -- that could have been  
11 brought back after lunch. We would have been happy  
12 to discuss it at that time.

13           My main objective was to recess for lunch  
14 because that's what we'd agreed to do. And trying to  
15 push that at that time, I felt, was inappropriate,  
16 and grabbing the mike from me, I thought was  
17 inappropriate.

18           So with that, can we move on to other  
19 issues, if there are any other issues or does  
20 somebody want to talk about this further?

21           KATHY DAVIS: Can we move for  
22 adjournment?

23           IAN DAVIDSON: Yes.

24           I need a second.

25           We still have a comment.

1           RANDY RISTER: I didn't want to bring  
2 this up when the room was packed, but I just wanted  
3 to let this Desert Advisory Council know that for a  
4 number of years there has been the assumption or -- I  
5 do not want to use the word "promise," but there  
6 certainly has been numerous comments made to the OHV  
7 community that there would be certain areas protected  
8 from their use.

9           And I know that's the case in  
10 Imperial County because even before Clipman passed in  
11 '76, I have been working with the BLM on the  
12 plateau on the study of the Yuma Basin, and that was  
13 eventually closed to OHV use.

14           The plateau has only been closed to West  
15 Mesa parts of the Oxy Recreation Area, then the east  
16 Basin was closed. Then the Northern Aqueduct Dunes  
17 was close. And in each case there was assurances  
18 given in the OHV community that even though they  
19 were getting something out of it, they were losing  
20 something.

21           Glamis will remain pretty much as is  
22 because they needed someplace to recreate when  
23 everything else was being shut down.

24           Even when Cranston was pushing the  
25 Desert Bill and then Boxer and Feinstein -- and who



1 was -- I can't remember the name of the congressman  
 2 who was the little short guy that was running against  
 3 Boxer.

4 KATHY DAVIS: John Seymour.

5 RANDY RISTER: Seymour. That was it.

6 Even Seymour had visited the Glamis area  
 7 and made those assurances, and in the Protection Act  
 8 the Hunter-M (phonetic) was successful in getting  
 9 WSA-362 removed from the bill so Glamis Dunes would  
 10 stay open.

11 What you have is a large group of people  
 12 that have filled large tracts of land for endangered  
 13 species and that there should be some place left for  
 14 their type of recreation, and I think that there's a  
 15 lot of people out there that are upset. They feel  
 16 betrayed. They have been fighting this battle for a  
 17 decade or longer, and there's going -- well, there is  
 18 a lot of hard feelings over what's occur, and I know  
 19 that the lawsuit was under the control of the BLM,  
 20 but they're not only concerned about the recreational  
 21 areas, but they're concerned about their economic  
 22 impact.

23 We know that in the Imperial County the  
 24 loss of the Glamis Dunes impacted us about  
 25 \$54 million dollars a year. If you multiply that

1 from San Diego County, L.A. County, Tucson, Phoenix,  
2 the various areas that also come and use this Glamis  
3 area, you're looking at a major economic impact.

4       So I don't know if there is a lot we can  
5 do other than do the studies and try to reverse some  
6 of the decisions but certainly understand how these  
7 people feel betrayed, how they feel they've given and  
8 given and given, and, now, even more is being taken,  
9 and it's just not the OHV people, but you certainly  
10 see it with the plan and some of the other lawsuits  
11 coming through that there could be other groups out  
12 there, the rock hounds, the hunters, many other  
13 Desert recreations that feel that, you know, if -- if  
14 it can happen at Glamis, it can happen everywhere.

15       Just to let you know, our Board of  
16 Supervisors has taken some action. There is a  
17 resolution that was passed. I didn't bring enough  
18 copies for everybody, but I'll give Molly a copy so  
19 she can mail this to you on the position that our  
20 Board has taken.

21       But I just wanted you to be made aware of  
22 some of the concerns that we had in Imperial County.

23       IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you.

24       Ms. Bearslee, anything else?

25       MARILYN BEARSLEE: I just wanted to say

1 at this meeting I appreciate Mr. Davidson expertise  
 2 as our chairman. It's been wonderful working with  
 3 you.

4 IAN DAVIDSON: Thank you. I appreciate  
 5 it.

6 And I just want to say I really enjoyed  
 7 my six years here, and I'm really sorry to see the  
 8 turmoil that we're having, but when we had lost other  
 9 people like Dana Aldel -- I was really sad to see her  
 10 go.

11 So I know that the things will continue  
 12 without -- certainly without my presence, but without  
 13 Buford's presence and Jon's and the other people that  
 14 are going off....

15 So thank you very much. It's been a  
 16 great time.

17 KATHY DAVIS: Move for adjournment.

18 IAN DAVIDSON: Move for adjournment.

19 Meeting adjourned.

20 Thank you.

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1           (Whereupon the BLM NATIONAL OFF-HIGHWAY  
2   VEHICLE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY listening session was  
3   concluded at 4:37 p.m.)

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6 I, Jill Inman-Ferguson, do hereby certify  
7 that I transcribed the foregoing-entitled matter;  
8 and I further certify that the foregoing is a full,  
9 true, and correct transcription of such proceedings.

25

---

Jill Inman-Ferguson

1 From: Annette Spear

2 Address: 11085 Kadota Street

3 Pomona, California 91766

4

5 The enjoyment that my family receives

6 from the dunes is irreplaceable. We have the

7 opportunity to experience the beauty of the desert

8 and yet also respect all of its qualities. Also,

9 there are so many businesses that rely on the support

10 of the family of off-roaders and "dunes." Please

11 take this into consideration when making your

12 decision. We do appreciate your time and

13 understanding in this matter.

14 Sincerely,

15 Annette Spear

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1 From: John W. Taylor and Family

2 Address: 746 Edenfield Street

3 Covina, California

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5 I fully support the ASA matter to keep

6 the dunes open.

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1 From: Thomas Elsenpeter & Family

2 Address: 571 Thornhurst Avenue

3 Glendora, California 91741

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5 I fully support the ASA motion to keep

6 the dunes at Glamis open to our family of five. We

7 love to camp there and enjoy everything about it.

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1 From: Don Sliwdeski / Sand Cars Unlimited

2 Address: 2370 E. Orangethorpe Avenue

3 Anaheim, California 92806

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5 We have been in this sport for 25 years.

6 It is a family tradition.

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1 From: Jim Huban

2 Address: 7759 Elmhurst Avenue

3 Rancho Cucamonga, California 91730

4

5 Closing Glamis would result in many

6 businesses suffering. It is just a few people making

7 it bad for everyone. It is the only form of

8 recreation my family has. I support the things the

9 BLM has done and is doing. The City of Brawley's

10 economy would suffer.

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1 From: Jim Miranda

2 Address: 2613 Irvington

3 San Bernardino, California 92407

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5 We are going in the right direction by

6 cleaning up Glamis and getting rid of the

7 undesirables. Glamis is the only recreation for a

8 lot of people. We have been going there for ten

9 years and cleaning up our mess. No one seriously

10 hurt.

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1 From: P. J. Babbitt and Family

2 Address: 14315 Old Community Road

3 Poway, California 92064

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5 No more closure of public land. Need

6 more areas open. Need accounting of green sticker

7 fees, camping fees on how they are being used for ORV

8 means. Need to conduct meetings in major

9 metropolitan areas, with advance notice in major news

10 publication, news media so that all parties can

11 attend.

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1 From: Don Shed

2 Address: 14311 Old Community Road

3 Poway, California 92064

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5 We do not want the closure of any sand

6 dunes.

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1 From: Jacqueline Wirtz

2 Address: 13551 Norwalk Street

3 Poway, California 92064

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5 We do not want any sand dunes closed. We

6 enjoy the time out there with family and friends.

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1 From: Wesley Moore

2 Address: 13551 Norwalk Street

3 Poway, California 92064

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5 Not to close any part of the

6 Imperial Sand Dunes or any deserts.

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1 From: Reggie B. Spears

2 Address: 11038-1/2 Kadota

3 Pomona, California 91766

4

5 In regards to closing Glamis, we have already

6 given up a portion of it which is now used by no one,

7 not even the people that wanted it closed.

8 Furthermore many businesses will be affected if

9 Glamis is closed or any portion of it. We spend a

10 lot of money at many variety of business to maintain

11 off-road toys, such as trailers, motor homes, gas,

12 etc.

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1 From: Don Todd

2 Address: 3918 Lindsay

3 Riverside, California 92509

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5 That off-road use in Glamis and desert areas

6 stay open for the enjoyment of our family. Thanks.

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1 From: Earl D. Vaughn

2 Address: 1206 Harris

3 Camarillo, California 93010

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5 Please strongly consider the family

6 experience and how closures will affect us. We have

7 a deep reverence for this opportunity and will be at

8 a great loss. Also, please extend this comment

9 period. Now that the word is out, many views not

10 previously addressed can be heard.

11 Sincerely,

12 Earl D. Vaughn

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1 From: James Riggs

2 Address: 19101 Haida

3 Apple Valley, California 92307

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5 We are American, pay our taxes. This is

6 our land. You can not take away our freedom to ride.

7 It is very American.

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1 From:

2 Address: 18995 Red Feather Road

3 Apple Valley, California 92307

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1 From: Richard B. Spears

2 Address: 5034 Holt Boulevard, Space No. 85

3 Montclair, California 91763

4 (909) 624-2823

5

6 I been going to Glamis for over 35 years.

7 Glamis is a very good form of recreation. It's good,

8 clean fun for the whole family.

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1 From: A. J. Beamer

2 Address: 17375 Brookhurst Street, No. 82

3 Fountain Valley, California 92708

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5 To fully respond to the rights is to

6 decline those of others. Let's get together.

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1 From: Kat Moser

2 Address: 1330 S. Briargate Lane

3 Glendora, California 91740

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5 The Glamis OHV area is a favorite family  
6 recreation place for our family and those of many  
7 friends. This is where we take our grandchildren to  
8 teach them respect for, as well as delight in, our  
9 desert environment. Off-road riding, done  
10 responsibly, also teaches safety consciousness and  
11 the need to take responsibility for ourselves and  
12 fellow users of the area.

13 If there is an endangered species of  
14 plants in the area, perhaps our usage fees can help  
15 provide fencing to protect a reasonable portion of  
16 the plants, while still maintaining a sufficient  
17 riding area for the thousands of desert enthusiasts  
18 who are able to see the land from its interior via  
19 off-road riding.

20 We appreciate your help in maintaining  
21 Glamis for OHV use and providing rangers to keep  
22 users informed of the rules for safe and  
23 environmentally aware use.

24 Kat Moser

25 kat@katsmeow.com

1 From: Scott McCall

2 Address: 7759 Elmhurst Avenue

3 Rancho Cucamonga, California 91730

4

5 Closing Glamis would result in many

6 businesses suffering motor home sales, motorcycle

7 sales. It is a good form of recreation for my

8 family. The City of Brawley's economy would suffer.

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1 From: Al Almeida

2 Address: 2241 West Avenue 135th

3 San Leandro, California 94577

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5 I don't want to just play the Glamis

6 video game. Will all our life experiences be a

7 computer game in the future? Please save our dunes

8 for fun.

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1 From: Mike Collins

2 Address: 15783 Via Arroyo

3 San Lorenzo, California 94580

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5 You have already closed many Northern

6 California areas already. How many areas do you

7 need? The having to travel 400+ miles to play is

8 not making for much fun.

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1 From: Anthony P. Kalaj

2 Address: 11616 Valley View, No. A

3 Whittier, California 90604

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5 We as responsible off-roaders, build traditions

6 and a heritage for our sons and daughters. We spend

7 time with our families enjoying the desert. We've

8 always stayed on roads and trails. The government

9 has no business closing areas down that are enjoyed

10 by families. The desert is huge and the small riding

11 that people are doing and we know that the riders do

12 respect the trail systems that are in place. Don't

13 make good people bad by shutting stuff down.

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1 From: Mike Pumar

2 Address: 2180 E. Washington Avenue

3 Escondido, California 92027

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5 National OHV Management Strategy

6 I wish to voice my displeasure with the

7 BLM for not advertising the short public comment

8 period which ended in August 2000 for their "National

9 OHV Management Strategy" (NOHVMS). I now understand

10 that the BLM, based on protests from the public and

11 OHV groups, will allow public input on the draft

12 "NOHVMS" between November 15-December 15, 2000.

13 However, I feel that 30 days is not sufficient time

14 for the off-road community to provide meaningful

15 input and request that the public comment period be

16 changed to allow for a 90-120 day comment period. I

17 don't understand why the BLM did not hold public

18 input meetings in local communities, as they did in

19 the past when implementing similar new programs and

20 am suspicious of their motives and agenda. I want to

21 make sure that the BLM's new NOHVMS has provisions to

22 protect existing OHV areas and to enhance OHV

23 recreation opportunities in the future while

24 protecting the environment to a reasonable degree.

25

## 1 Center for Biological Diversity Lawsuit

2 I am appalled to hear that the BLM  
3 pleaded no contest to the lawsuit filed by the Center  
4 for Environmental Diversity (CED) and that it will  
5 not fight this matter in court. I have ridden in the  
6 ISDRA for over 20 years and was an enthusiast when  
7 the Northern dunes were closed in a settlement with  
8 the environmentalists in the 1980's. I was not happy  
9 over the closure when it occurred, but in time and  
10 through the maturation process accepted the closure  
11 as a way of preserving the plants and animals found  
12 in the dunes while at the same time providing an area  
13 for OHV use in the Southern dunes. Now, the  
14 environmentalists want to close the Southern dunes  
15 and are using the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as  
16 their tool to do so. They have accused the BLM of  
17 improperly managing the natural resources found in  
18 the ISDRA and have sued to close all or part of the  
19 dunes. I am tired of constantly having to fight to  
20 Preserve the right to use public lands for reasons  
21 other than creating a nature preserve or a living  
22 landscape portrait. I have never purposely driven  
23 over any plants or wildlife in the dunes and am  
24 constantly cleaning up after myself and others to  
25 maintain and preserve the beauty of the dunes. I

1 respect the dunes, the BLM, fellow duners and the  
2 environment and find the penalty being imposed on me,  
3 my family, and thousands of other conscientious and  
4 law-abiding enthusiasts to be unconscionable on the  
5 part of the BLM. It is difficult to understand how  
6 the BLM did not defend itself in the lawsuit, the  
7 fact that it did not defend itself and the right of  
8 the thousands of enthusiasts who use the ISDRA. The  
9 BLM's decision to not contest the CED's lawsuit shows  
10 a complete disregard for due process and decades of  
11 public involvement in planning the use of public  
12 lands. The action taken by the BLM is a breach of  
13 public trust forged over the years, will result  
14 millions of taxpayer dollars being wasted on past  
15 planning and millions more to implement a settlement  
16 agreement that may or may not be in the public best  
17 interest. The way the BLM has handled this matter is  
18 a debacle, a demonstration of government at its worst  
19 and a public injustice.

20       If closures must take place, and I pray  
21 to God they don't, there must be ways to section off  
22 or fence protected areas while still allowing  
23 continued use of the entire dune complex. Instead of  
24 developing this issue into a battle ground, why can't  
25 the BLM develop a plan in which the world's most

1 widely used off-road venue remains open and can serve  
2 as an example of co-existence between the OHV  
3 community and the environmental groups.

4       The BLM should also take into  
5 consideration the severe financial impacts that the  
6 closure of the dunes will have on the typical  
7 off-road enthusiasts who visits the ISDRA, the  
8 billion dollar off-road industry and the economic  
9 impact on the cities of Brawley and El Centro. More  
10 importantly, the closure of the dunes will impact  
11 quality time thousands of families spend with their  
12 friends, family, and grandchildren. Closure of the  
13 dunes will break generations of family traditions  
14 regarding the use of the ISDRA and are traditions the  
15 BLM should be proud to preserve.

16

#### 17 Recreation Fee District Policy

18       I have not had the opportunity to review  
19 the BLM's proposed Recreation Fee Policy but  
20 generally do not oppose reasonable user fees if they  
21 provide new services, improvements, and enhancements  
22 to existing areas such as Gecko Campground, etc.

23

24

25

1 From: John and Sandra Vanos

2 Address: 32433 Enriqueta Circle

3 Temecula, California 92592

4

5 My family and I have been enjoying since

6 I was a young child, and I am now a 30-year-old

7 father, husband, and business owner. Sand duning and

8 off-road recreation has long since been a part of my

9 upbringing. To close such places would be a tragedy,

10 mainly due to the fact that it has always been a

11 "family" bonding experience, and I would hate to see

12 that opportunity for other families disappear.

13 I also would like to address the issue of

14 economic impact. My business, as well as many

15 others, will be severely impacted, if not destroyed,

16 by many of the actions being reviewed by the BLM.

17 Some of the businesses in question rely solely on the

18 Imperial Sand Dunes for its clientele base.

19 Personally, I am directly associated with over 10 of

20 these businesses that would dramatically be affected.

21 Ultimately, I would like to urge the BLM

22 to take great care in these decisions and make sure

23 these issues that are addressed and outlined are in

24 this process.

25 Thank you, John



1 From: Todd Back

2 Address: 1133 Zion Court

3 San Jacinto, California 92583

4

5 My family and I have been using the

6 deserts in California for approximately 20 years.

7 They have provided many weekends of relaxing fun. It

8 is a shame to take it away. There has to be some

9 solution besides closing these areas.

10 Thank you,

11 Todd W. Back

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1 From: David R. Jenner

2 Address: 10308 Hamilton Street

3 Alta Loma, California

4

5 We've enjoyed Glamis for 15 years. Now

6 my sons and granddaughter now enjoy the family

7 atmosphere of the dunes. Please don't close them

8 down; they promote good family activities.

9 Thank you,

10 David R. Jenner

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1 From: Daniel Canhart

2 Address: 2240 Rockway Drive

3 West Covina, California 91790

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5 I feel that you should not close down our

6 recreation area. Thousands of good people enjoy

7 these areas, and you know once they close an area, we

8 never get it back.

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1 From: Rick Alexander

2 Address: 2485 Trails End Road

3 Acton, California 93510

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1 From: Daniel Thompson

2 Address: 7667 Lilac Circle

3 Buena Park, California 90620

4

5 1. My family has been going to Glamis for 25  
6 years. We use it for recreation. We also go there  
7 on cleanup days (pick up trash). Glamis is a family  
8 place to camp.

9 2. Glamis campers get a bad rap. If one in  
10 a thousand people leave a mess, a few abusers  
11 shouldn't close Glamis.

12 3. I am for more rangers and police at  
13 Glamis.

14 4. Closing Glamis over a few abusers is like  
15 closing Freeway 10 because the police arrested a  
16 drunk driver.

17 5. I would like to see the abusers arrested  
18 and fined large fines (start at \$1,000) at Glamis.

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25

1 From: Jeff Shuff

2 Address: 3149 Cornell Street

3 Redlands, California 92374

4

5 I feel that it is unlawful and

6 unnecessary to close the remaining open land to

7 off-road use. I do fully support the green sticker

8 fees to help patrol the areas, but feel that since I

9 do pay taxes, follow rules, and obey laws, it would

10 be of a definite misuse of otherwise open land.

11 Jeff Shuff

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1 From: Richard Korsek

2 Address: 6292 Hillside Drive

3 Yorba Linda, California 92886

4

5 I feel that closing off present off-road

6 recreational areas is unconstitutional. We pay taxes

7 for licensing and the ability to use this land which

8 has been set aside. Why continue to restrict it's

9 use to us?

10 Richard Korsek

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1 From: Chris Aveling

2 Address: 19844 White Spring Lane

3 Yorba Linda, California 92886

4

5 I consider it to be unconstitutional to

6 close public land to OHV users/recreation users. I

7 pay taxes and green fees towards the use and upgrade

8 of public land by off-road users. It is not fair to

9 punish OHV users that pay and support the use of the

10 lands. We cooperate by using it with hikers,

11 cyclists, horses that do not pay extra for the use.

12 Respectfully,

13 Chris Aveling

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1 From: Larry Aveling

2 Address: 909 High View Drive

3 Riverside, California 92506

4

5 I consider the closing of the remaining

6 open off-road use area an infringement on my

7 constitutional rights. I pay my taxes and green

8 sticker fees toward use and improvements of these

9 areas for the public use.

10 Larry Aveling

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1 From: Dwayne Jackson

2 Address: 19430 Sweet Wood Lane

3 Lake Elsinore, California

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1 From: Jon Pease

2 Address: 27897 Skycrest Circle

3 Valencia, California 91354

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5 Off-roaders for Glamis!

6 BLM is responsible to me as well.

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1 From: Raymond Flores

2 Address: 1710 Laslo Drive

3 Escondido, California 92025

4

5 The BLM needs to be responsive to OHV

6 needs, as well as environmental issues. The strategy

7 of negotiations does not give us a chance to be

8 fairly represented.

9 The lawsuit has never been fairly

10 discussed. There is not enough time allotted for

11 discovery on our behalf.

12 Fee programs will be effective if they

13 are administered properly.

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1 From: Jenny Hove

2 Address: 40350 Paseo del Cielo

3 Temecula, California 92591

4

5 I am pleased that the new BLM management  
6 strategy includes more enforcement; responsible  
7 recreation makes for increased fun, and of course,  
8 safety for all.

9 Of a major concern is the possibility of  
10 closures at the Glamis area. I have enjoyed desert  
11 riding for 31 years and have had wonderful  
12 camping/riding outings with my family. My son is now  
13 away in college and my daughter, a senior in high  
14 school, yet this Glamis experience is still a  
15 vacation they enjoy.

16 I want to know what we can do as  
17 responsible riders to protect the plant in concern,  
18 yet continue to access the dunes. Surely, we can  
19 build protective barriers and restrict access in  
20 certain areas where these plants grow.

21 I'm a third grade teacher from Menifee  
22 and the majority of my students go to these dunes for  
23 vacation. This is their big vacation. Oftentimes,  
24 these families bring one 'sand toy' and stay a week  
25 in their camper. The kids go on and on over the fun.

- 1           This is a beautiful and amazing area.
- 2   Let's continue to allow others to appreciate it --
- 3   let's do it responsibly. We can work together.
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1 From: Cory Hove

2 Address: 40350 Paseo del Cielo

3 Temecula, California 92591

4

5 My family and many of our friends'

6 families have been riding in the desert for the past

7 15 years. My children are now in college. Trips to

8 the desert still bring us together. I know having

9 this recreational activity is a major factor in not

10 only keeping our family together but also thousands

11 of others. Desert conservation is extremely

12 important. I want to be able to go to the desert in

13 20 years and have it look the same as it does now.

14 Balanced conservation methods must be used so

15 everyone may use our natural resources.

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25

1 From: William W. White

2 Address: Post Office Box 1193

3 Jamul, California 91935

4

5 Who is checking the data the

6 environmentalists are coming up with?

7 What are they basing their data on?

8 Who, when, and where are they collecting

9 this data?

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1 From: Jim Watt

2 Address: 570 South Rio Road

3 Riverside, California 92509

4

5 Please keep our lands open. Represent us

6 the way you should equal!! I have a two- and

7 three-year-old son. I want them to have the same

8 access I've grown up with. Protect my rights. Please

9 help to keep our lands open.

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1 From: Bryan S. Tinson

2 Address: 224 Gabrielle Way

3 Redlands, California

4

5 I wish strongly to keep the sand dunes

6 open so that my family can experience the joys of the

7 land.

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1 From: Conrad Nelson

2 Address: 90 Santa Barbara Court

3 Foothill Ranch, California 92610

4 (949) 837-0423

5

6 The Imperial Sand Dunes recreation area

7 already has enough land closed to off-highway vehicle

8 use. I do not find it necessary to close any more as

9 it will only make it easier to close the rest.

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1 From: Chuck Abela

2 Address: 13713 Burning Tree Drive

3 Victorville, California 92392

4

5 I hereby request that BLM consider

6 opening more lands for OHV. I have lived and played

7 in the upper desert for 40 years. I have raised four

8 children in this area, our main recreation being

9 off-roading and camping, etc. We need more land

10 opened up so maybe more people down the hill would

11 come up and enjoy the things with their kids that my

12 wife and I have.

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1 From: Bonnie Haupt

2 Address: 1341 Elizabeth Street

3 Redlands, California 92373

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1 From: Kris Klinzing

2 Address: 1341 Elizabeth Street

3 Redlands, California 92373

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1 From: Dave Chick

2 Address: 162 Poinsettia Avenue

3 Monrovia, California 91016

4

5 I believe there is a need for an OHV

6 strategy. I also am very disappointed that special

7 interest groups have a greater influence than the

8 actual users of our public lands. Multiple uses

9 should always be considered when determining the fate

10 of public lands. The off-road user enjoys our public

11 lands and uses the opportunity to teach their family

12 about the land, it's residents, both natural and

13 man-made. It is frustrating to take your family to

14 an area that you have been to and find a wilderness

15 or closed sign on a road to a historic site such as

16 an abandoned mine or a water source.

17 The definition of a road needs to be

18 reviewed. The OHV user does not require or desire a

19 maintained road. A road status could be

20 "non-maintained" rather than "closed."

21 The BLM has a great responsibility to

22 maintain the land for the public. Recreational

23 aspects must be given a high priority. Closing areas

24 will affect all users of our public lands and access

25 to areas with historical sites, minerals, and other

1 areas of interest.

2 The public land is for the public to  
3 enjoy. The special interest groups do not have the  
4 public's interest as their priority. Their concerns  
5 must be recognized and rebalanced.

6 Thank you for your time and efforts with  
7 land management.

8 Dave Chick

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1 From: Robert G. Corpe

2 Address: 19116 Seaforth

3 Hisperia, California 92345

4

5 For the past 30 years I have enjoyed the  
6 use of the California desert for off-road recreation.

7 Over this time our access has been diminished time  
8 and time again. While I recognize the need for other  
9 uses, I feel off-road use serves purposes not

10 recognized by the BLM and the government. I raised

11 two children in this atmosphere and I feel it

12 contributed greatly to their growth into fine,

13 upstanding young men. Without this activity they

14 surely would have been easy prey for the drug deals

15 on the streets. Their children need the space to

16 pursue wholesome activities such as off-roading. If

17 we relegate them to the cities, they will only have

18 more access to the evils of those areas. Supervised

19 off-roading teaches responsibility and self-control

20 and confidence in children ... our future needs this

21 activity and this activity needs open land.

22 Thank you for your consideration!

23 Robert G. Corpe

24

25

1 From: William W. Bock, Jr.

2 Address: 9031 Hunter Pass

3 Alpine, California 91901

4

5 To Whom It May Concern:

6 The upcoming public comment period for

7 OHV management strategy is far too short for

8 meaningful input. All groups should have at least

9 120 days to respond. OHV needs a comprehensive plan

10 to submit and can mobilize a representative response

11 if given reasonable time.

12 I encourage the BLM to be aggressive in

13 its defense of recreation and OHV use on its lands

14 (the public's), in particular, the matter of the

15 Imperial Sand Dunes. I have been taking my family

16 there for years. It makes no sense to lock it up for

17 the sake of a few plants that can be preserved in

18 much lesser acreage. The Endangered Species Act has

19 already sequestered 23% of the dune complex for this

20 and enough is enough. One million people a year use

21 the dunes and have only just begun to pay the fees

22 that are necessary to properly oversee and manage

23 dune recreation (motorized). I think this will work

24 and should be given more time to prove itself. Public

25 education and some enforcement will produce the

1 results that even the environmentalists are for.

2 I am an environmentalist, but I draw the  
3 line when huge tracts of land are locked up and  
4 restricted for large segments of the population, OHV  
5 enthusiasts or otherwise. Usage will produce damage,  
6 but a certain amount is unavoidable and must be  
7 accepted as such. We cannot continue to box up  
8 mankind in cities or force "him" to be placid and  
9 contemplative. Exciting and invigorating activities  
10 such as sand sports and OHV use must be allowed to  
11 exist and grow.

12 Fight for a person's right to recreate.  
13 Do not cave in to a small group of extremists on  
14 environmental issues. Let's be more creative in  
15 protecting and expanding. Population grows; so must  
16 available land for recreation of all sorts of  
17 recreational activities and be more open to  
18 environmental options that do not lock away huge and  
19 recreationally unique lands. You will be supported  
20 in this effort.

21 Thank you,

22 William Bock

23 10/21/00

24

25

1 From: Ed A. Stevens

2 Address: 2355 Ocana Avenue

3 Long Beach, California 90815

4

5 I request (and support) the extension of  
6 comment period for all land impact decisions. The  
7 minimum comment period must be 120 days to promote  
8 effective public education and comment.

9 The OHV management strategy must include  
10 provisions to preserve access to mining claims.  
11 Amateur mining and rock and gem enthusiasts have not  
12 been represented (or appear to have been considered)  
13 in the planning.

14 Any and all lawsuit settlements must be  
15 under public review before implementation. The lack  
16 of confirming documentation identifying impacts that  
17 are the basis of the lawsuit, by independent study,  
18 lead to misinformed decisions and unproven need for  
19 closure.

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1 From: Mike Rood

2 Address: 22861 Cedar Spring

3 Lake Forest, California 92630

4

5 We've been riding motorcycles and dune

6 buggies for over 30 years on California desert land.

7 We respect the land and the available land is already

8 scarce. Please keep the Imperial Dunes open.

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1 From: Wade W. Williams  
2 Address: 11825 Ann Arbor Court  
3 Riverside, California 92505  
4 wade@drc-eng.com  
5

6 Being raised in the OHV environment, it  
7 really upsets me to know that a select few people  
8 wish to keep my children from enjoying the great  
9 outdoors. My children will not be able to ride in  
10 open areas. I am not able to hike into areas due to  
11 knee injuries. The only way into the open areas is  
12 on OHV or a four-wheel truck. The Americans With  
13 Disabilities Act states that I will have full access  
14 to public places. If OHV use is prohibited, I and my  
15 family will not have access to my public lands. I  
16 was in Glamis the days they began putting up signs on  
17 the north side. I did not believe my father when he  
18 said, "Someday we will not have a place to play." I  
19 thought he was nuts. But it looks like he was right.  
20 The environmental elite want only their access. This  
21 is narrow-minded, limited use. We think "open to  
22 all" is the best management.

23

24

25

1 From: Erik Jenner

2 Address: 10308 Hamilton Street

3 Alta Loma, California 91701

4 E-mail: Doug@hotmail.com

5

6 In response to the views being addressed

7 by the DAC, I can see an understanding for some

8 action to be taken. However, the proposal as it

9 stands not only appears irrational but unjust. The

10 Imperial Sand Dunes are known as the Sand Toy Capital

11 of the World. This place not only supplies citizens

12 of the United States a place of recreational leisure

13 but an economic asset. Countless people's lives and

14 livelihood will be dramatically affected by the

15 closure of the sand dunes. In addition, to the

16 negative impacts this proposal will have

17 economically, it affects and disrupts the family

18 oriented lifestyle in which we try to achieve. I

19 speak for all of those who enjoy the Imperial Sand

20 Dunes that we are environmentalists. But radicals we

21 are not. The milkweed plant that is being a major

22 issue of discussion is not in danger. Off-road

23 enthusiasts do not disturb these bushes. Plants such

24 as this have nothing to worry about. In addition,

25 the closing of the north side of the Imperial Sand

1 Dunes constitutes the milkweed's protection. I think  
2 the issue is not about the extinction of the milkweed  
3 plants but the endangered species is the off-road  
4 enthusiasts who spend the hard-earned paychecks to  
5 take our family and friends out for a good time in  
6 which all deserve. Our numbers here today not  
7 represented are clearly not because of a lack of  
8 interest but a lack of awareness. I found out about  
9 this five days prior to this meeting and when  
10 mentioning it to others, I was met with disbelief. We  
11 lack the organization and resources that our  
12 opponents have. I never thought the day would come  
13 when I would have to defend my rights as a citizen to  
14 use public land that I thought would never be in  
15 contention of being shut down. I look forward to the  
16 day when I can take my children to the place that I  
17 love and enjoy. I am willing to put forth whatever  
18 efforts necessary to protect our rights as taxpaying  
19 citizens and will do everything in my power to bring  
20 awareness about this important matter.

21 Thank you and I will continue my support.

22 Erik Jenner

23 Concerned Off-road Taxpaying Citizen

24

25



1 From: Ken Johnson

2 Address: Post Office Box 2772

3 Hemet, California 92546

4

5 Please keep our public lands open to OHV

6 use. Thank you!

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1 From: Greg Rath

2 Address: 1830 Evergreen Avenue

3 Fullerton, California 92835

4

5 I feel that all public land should be

6 open to all and that any further closures should

7 stop.

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1 From: Craig Parpart

2 Address: 761 Pebble Beach

3 San Marcos, California 92069

4

5 This is ridiculous that our rights are

6 taken away without consulting us first. I would like

7 to take the opportunity, then, to have these comments

8 included in the lawsuit outcome and the National OHV

9 Management Strategy.

10 The public outcry will be heard with the

11 impending partial dune closure. Our equipment will

12 be worthless and useless. The economic impact will

13 be felt for hundreds of miles around. Lets not

14 forget THE most important issue -- our civil rights

15 to access public land! We need to be considered as

16 importantly as "the environment." We ARE the

17 environment. Our sport, not to mention family

18 lifestyle, will be extinct at the rate the closures

19 are going. What about us?

20

21

22

23

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25

1 From: Dan Leach

2 Address: 13120 Currant Court

3 Lakeside, California 92040

4

5 In particular I'm referencing the ISDRA.

6 I have frequented the dunes for well over ten years.

7 In our group alone, I represent about 50 people. We

8 are concerned about current or future ISDRA closure.

9 Although it is important to protect our

10 sensitive ecosystems, it is also important to

11 maintain the current level of OHV access. We are

12 looking at several issues:

13 1. Our rights of access to public land

14 2. Our rights to help decide the fate

15 (because that's what this really is) of our lands.

16 With the impending partial dune closure,

17 I am looking at worthless and useless equipment. I

18 am looking at my family lifestyle stolen overnight.

19 Our rights have become extinct rather than the

20 Milk Vetch?

21 Can't the Milk Vetch be relocated?

22

23

24

25

1 From: Richard Steffe

2 Address: 3007 North Lime Avenue

3 Fullerton, California 92835

4

5 I am a 40-year-old off-roader and family

6 man who enjoys this activity to spend quality time

7 with my family and would be extremely upset to see

8 any future closures of land. I have been quiet for

9 too long and now have become an activist. I will

10 vote and I will be heard.

11

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1 From: Thomas A. Meiss

2 Address: 45338 Corte Palmito

3 Temecula, California 92592

4

5 I am an avid off-road enthusiast and have

6 been for the past 15 years. I also consider myself

7 to be a supporter of conservation of the environment.

8 It is very discouraging to know that decisions are

9 being made regarding our deserts without the input of

10 the public. After all these are public lands. I

11 feel that the issues at hand need to be resolved at

12 the local level with a vote from the local public who

13 actually use these lands rather than some politician

14 or radical environmentalist group who has never even

15 visited our desert. I feel that we can reach a

16 reasonable compromise regarding these issues to

17 protect everyone's legitimate interests in the

18 desert. This is our land and no one should decide

19 what is to be done but us!

20 Sincerely,

21 Thomas A. Meiss

22 10/21/00

23

24

25

1 From: Scott Kendall

2 Address: 1019 Partridge Court

3 San Marcos, California 92069

4

5 This is a local issue. It should be  
6 dealt with locally not by the federal government.

7 The closure of this land will negatively  
8 affect business owners, employees, and consumers, as  
9 well as tourist revenue for Brawley, El Centro, Yuma,  
10 Borrego, and all nearby towns.

11 The state will also lose money on reduced  
12 green sticker sales, camping fees, etc.

13 I am a taxpayer. I pay for use of this  
14 land. It is my land and I wish to continue to use it  
15 as well as my family.

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1 From: Gerryck Darden, Age 9

2 Address: 1817 Weekend Villa Road

3 Ramona, California 92065

4

5 It's not fair to the kids that we're

6 having all this fun taken away without being asked

7 first. It's not fair to take away the wilderness and

8 chance to see the desert animals. My mom has worked

9 hard to find an activity we can share that doesn't

10 cost a lot. It helps kids learn to not litter. I

11 think it gives the crocodile hunter a chance to catch

12 rattlesnakes for "Animal Planet" on Discovery

13 channel. ORV activities help keep kids with their

14 families and off the streets, out of gangs, and off

15 drugs. I have been taught respect for the land,

16 respect for others, and respect for myself. The ORV

17 "family" has been ripped off.

18

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23

24

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1 From: Venessa

2 Address: 1817 Weekend Villa Road

3 Ramona, California 92065

4

5 I am a single parent with a family

6 history of ORV enthusiasts generations back. I am

7 appalled at the lack of input our "community" has had

8 in the proposed closures due to the endangered

9 plants. My son has heard stories about family ORV

10 activities with my dad who is deceased. What am I

11 supposed to tell my son about this? Not only had

12 this created animosity towards politicians and

13 bureaucracies for him at a young age, we are having

14 our recreation and adventures curtailed without our

15 input or without any apparent interest in compromise.

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1 From: David R. Christian

2 Address: 23401 Caminito Valle

3 Laguna Hills, California 92653

4

5 I would like to relate what trouble I

6 have had trying to get a State certificate to ride

7 quads with my minor children. I started with the

8 numbers printed on an off-highway map I had. I was

9 disconnected. I had to call 411 and get BLM in

10 Riverside. The receptionist did not know what I was

11 talking about but finally got through to her that I

12 needed instruction on desert riding. She forwarded

13 me to Ira who was never in. I tried several times to

14 leave a voice mail, but the system would not take a

15 message of any length; I got cut off and hence never

16 got called back. If you are going to require a

17 certificate, please make it easier to get

18 information.

19 I did finally get to a private

20 organization that can certify me. This was through

21 the DMV that sent me to a motorcycle class that

22 finally got me to the OHV group.

23 I am an avid off-roader, an official of

24 an OHV club for 10 years and use the forests,

25 beaches, and deserts of California. I am pleased

1 with Director Pool's vision of multi-use policy. I  
2 hope we can continue to maintain the land use so all  
3 can recreate the way they wish.

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1 From: Amy and Dan Barr

2 Address: 21741 Midcrest Drive

3 Lake Forest, California 92630

4

5 Thank you for taking time to consider my  
6 comments.

7 I am strongly opposed to closure of any  
8 lands to usage by recreational vehicles (mountain  
9 bicycles, motorcycles, sand rails, four-wheel drives,  
10 horses). We all bear responsibility as custodians of  
11 our lands. This is true of all Americans. Wilderness  
12 designation allows access to hikers and equestrians  
13 only. What percent of the population will visit  
14 wilderness areas on foot or by horseback? I'll  
15 venture a guess: It is less than 1%. If 99% of the  
16 population doesn't see and witness and experience  
17 these lands, who will care if the land is guarded?

18 The best way to garner public support for  
19 the care of lands is to increase access, not decrease  
20 it.

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1 From: Jeremy Lewis

2 Address: 10903 Bluff Street

3 Banning, California 92220

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5 I propose to keep the Imperial Sand Dunes

6 open to the public.

7 Sincerely,

8 Jeremy Lewis

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1 From: Anthony J. Tacchia II

2 Address: 1151 Edgar Avenue

3 Beaumont, California 92223

4

5 Please don't close our dunes. If you

6 need help to manage the dunes (Imperial), do not be

7 afraid to ask.

8 Anthony J. Tacchia

9 Member ASA

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1 From: John C. Moser

2 Address: 1330 South Briargate Lane

3 Glendora, California 91740-4920

4

5 The new "National OHV Management

6 Strategy," must have provisions to protect and

7 enhance OHV recreational opportunities on BLM lands.

8 We are aware that we have some very

9 unique and special situations in California,

10 especially Southern California, concerning OHV

11 recreation. I have to assume that other areas of the

12 country have special regional issues as well. How

13 will you be able to write a national policy that will

14 effectively deal with unique local issues that vary

15 from state to state?

16 I don't think a national OHV policy is

17 needed.

18 But if you must develop a national

19 policy, at least include provisions to protect

20 existing and enhance OHV opportunities.

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1 From: Geraldine Stofferahn

2 Address: 11492 Norton Avenue

3 Chino, California 91710

4

5 I have enjoyed some of my best times with

6 our children and grandchildren on our trips to

7 Glamis. I'd rather see the teenagers of today spend

8 quality time with their parents and grandparents

9 rather than running loose on the streets, doing

10 drugs, being members of gangs. Where are our

11 priorities? The future of our country is in the

12 hands of the teenagers today. Let's give them the

13 opportunity of good wholesome family values by

14 allowing Glamis Dunes to remain available to us.

15 Thank you for your consideration.

16 Geraldine Stofferahn

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1 From: Roger & Geri Stofferahn

2 Address: 11492 Norton Avenue

3 Chino, California 91710

4

5 I have had my best and closest times with

6 my kids when we started off-roading with sand

7 buggies, four-wheel drives, ATCs, and now ATVs. We

8 started with tents, then pop-up tent trailer, and now

9 a motor home. When my kids got married, we started

10 having major holidays with everyone in the desert.

11 The kids started finding other interests; so we

12 started bringing our grandkids with us. Now the kids

13 are getting in a better financial position so they

14 are starting to buy their own bikes and motor homes

15 because they missed that closeness with families

16 while they were kids. They now realize that it is

17 the best way to get quality time for the family. It

18 is the best way to unwind, get away from the phone

19 and TV, enjoy the clean air, the stars above, which

20 is very hard to see from the city.

21 The OHV community is growing and the OHV

22 area is getting smaller. By packing a larger group

23 in a smaller area makes it more dangerous for all of

24 us. We want to be able to spread out to be safer so

25 please do everything in your power to get these areas

1 opened up again.

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1 From: Bisher Alkatib

2 Address: 2464 Selmaz Lane

3 Laguna, California 92677

4

5 Logic is what makes humans different from

6 other species. If closing land acres does not

7 require logic, let me know so I will stop writing

8 letters and attending meetings. So far your

9 department did not explain why it closed

10 Serocho Summit. Please open it back again and please

11 stop closing down the desert. Please consider our

12 vote and call for intelligent resourcing and work

13 with us to keep public land to the public.

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1 From: Aaron Tacchia

2 Address: 1444 North Michigan, No. 117

3 Beaumont, California 92223

4

5 I've never been to Glamis to ride. I

6 believe it is my right to choose what land I can see

7 and explore and enjoy life and environment. Besides,

8 we're a free country, not communist.

9 Aaron Tacchia

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1 From: Jim Weese

2 Address: 34593 Avenue B

3 Yucaipa, California 92399

4

5 In the time I have gone to Glamis I have  
6 treaded lightly and so have many others. We pay our  
7 fees to use the park and all we want to do is  
8 preserve it. The Green Peace are trying to take that  
9 away.

10 Sincerely,

11 Jim Weese

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1 From: Will Hawes

2 Motorcycle Industry Council

3 Address: 2 Jenner Street, No. 150

4 Irvine, California 92618

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1 From: R. Perry

2 Address: 8281 Commonwealth

3 Buena Park, California 90621

4

5 Dear Representative:

6 In appreciation of your effort to

7 maintain the balance that exists between our natural

8 lands and the public, I respectfully request that you

9 follow the appropriate course in making your OHV

10 management strategy. It is imperative that, as

11 representatives of our government, having derived

12 your just powers from us, the governed, that you

13 allow us to have the representation afforded us by

14 our Constitution-based system. Our community, which

15 includes not only OHV enthusiasts, but scientists,

16 academics, families, and other citizens that enjoy

17 unrestrained access to our national lands deserve to

18 be heard in proportion to our rights of passage.

19 Please do not allow this issue to become another

20 casualty of an administration, striving to separate

21 citizens from accessing their natural environment

22 either by an Executive Order issued against the will

23 of the people or through a junk-science-driven

24 political agenda.

25 Sincerely,

- 1 Richard Eauv
- 2 for Ronald Perry
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1 From: John DeLap

2 Address: 17119 Walnut Street

3 Fountain Valley, California 92708

4

5 My name is John DeLap of Fountain Valley  
6 in Orange County. As a California off-roader of 16  
7 years, I have come to respect and love the beauty of  
8 the California desert.

9 I've shared the fun of desert off-roading  
10 with countless people. And they all enjoy a scenic  
11 beauty and sunset from atop a sand dune that city  
12 dwellers rarely experience. I'm not the only one to  
13 enjoy sunsets atop a dune.

14 I feel strongly that more time should be  
15 allotted to allow collecting more input for the new  
16 National OHV Management Strategy.

17 I'm heartened to learn of the DAC's  
18 concern for wise multiple-use BLM land management.

19 And lastly, I request the new OHV  
20 Management Strategy include a provision to protect  
21 and enhance OHV recreation opportunities. If a true  
22 measure of public sentiment is sought, I suggest  
23 future meetings be held closer to the  
24 highly-populated areas (San Bernardino, for example).

25 I request we all haul out more trash than

1 we brought in so that none will have their experience

2 tainted by unsightly litter.

3 Thank you.

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1 From: Truedi and Alex Balsitis

2 Address: 1005 Hourglass Place

3 Diamond Bar, California

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5 Further restricting the use of BLM land

6 decreases the opportunity for new desert enthusiasts

7 to view the great outdoors and limits access for the

8 mobility challenged (handicapped). The desert is for

9 all people to share. An analogy I would like to

10 present is to think of the desert as a great museum.

11 Sometimes you have to get up close before the view

12 can be truly appreciated. Restricting access to the

13 desert doesn't provide opportunities to see the

14 diversity of the desert and its many features.

15 Similar to closing the door to the art of Van Gogh or

16 Remington.

17 Some desert enthusiasts are physically

18 limited to motorized transportation. Closing the

19 desert to these people would be unfair and a shame

20 (possibly against the law).

21 One of the best ways to get people

22 interested in desert conservation is to open access

23 to its beauty and uniqueness. Cooperation is like

24 once people understand that the desert can be

25 environmentally sensitive. Restricting use of the

1 existing trails or eliminating further access does  
2 more harm than good toward convincing responsible use  
3 of the desert.

4 Thank you for the opportunity to express  
5 my concerns regarding the new BLM National OHV  
6 Management Strategy.

7 Truedi and Alex Balsitis

8 October 20, 2000

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1 From: R. Scott Edwards, R. G.

2 Address: 2930 Mangular Avenue

3 Corona, California 92886

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5 Fully understanding the delicate balance

6 that exists between the environment and those of us

7 whom enjoy it, I respectfully request that you follow

8 the appropriate course in making your OHV Management

9 Strategy. It is imperative that you, as

10 representatives of our government, having derived

11 your just powers from us, the governed, allow us to

12 have the representation due to us under our

13 Constitution. Our community, which includes not only

14 OHV enthusiasts, but scientists, academics, and other

15 citizens that enjoy access to our national lands,

16 deserves the right to be heard in proportion. Please

17 do not allow this issue to become another casualty of

18 an administration that strives to separate the

19 citizens from their natural environment, either by

20 Executive Order or through a junk-science-driven

21 agenda.

22 Sincerely,

23 Richard Scott Edwards, R. G.

24

25

1 From: Steven C. Nicholson

2 Address: 5171 Banbury Circle

3 La Palma, California 90623

4

5 I believe strongly that as an American

6 citizen that all public lands belong to the people,

7 not the government. For the government to take

8 arbitrary action, without the input from the people

9 is an outrage. I have always thought the purpose of

10 government was to protect our freedom, not to decide

11 in what form we should observe our recreation

12 activities.

13 Obviously, environmental concerns are

14 real, but those concerns must be in all of our

15 interests, not just the Sierra Club, or some other

16 organization that uses their causes as their form of

17 recreation.

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1 From: Matt Burkhart

2 Address: 420 E. Nicole Court

3 Upland, California 91784

4

5 I feel that the sand dune related rules

6 and regulations contemplated by the BLM and

7 environmentalists are clearly unconstitutional.

8 Closing down the sand dunes takes away our

9 opportunity to enjoy what God gave to us. These

10 rules will take away quality time and recreational

11 time for many people and families. I am a full-time

12 college student and a full-time worker who greatly

13 values his recreational time. I, like everyone else

14 at Glamis, have worked hard for what I am and what I

15 have. I believe that myself, and every other

16 American should have the right to enjoy our sand

17 dunes. We, as Americans, work hard for our leisure

18 time. There should be no reason why our leisure

19 activities should be taken away from us.

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1 From: Ronald P. Scott

2 Address: 10933 Lindesmith Avenue

3 Whittier, California 90603

4

5 I am 31 years old and have been going to

6 the dunes for 28 years. My family has been enjoying

7 the "Glamis" dunes for nearly three decades. We have

8 seen many political fights for land within this

9 unique area of our desert. We were there when the

10 30,000+ acres north of Highway 78 were closed in the

11 early 70s. We were there when Dianne Feinstein's

12 California Desert Protection Act closed the "wedge"

13 by the old Glamis store. We're here now again

14 fighting for our dunes. This time its different for

15 me. I now own and run a business with my sister and

16 father.

17 We started Weekend Concepts to market

18 lighting for buggies and ATVs back in 1993. If you

19 look now, our Lazer Star Billet Lights are the lights

20 to have if you own a classy dune vehicle. The sand

21 market, while no longer the majority of my business,

22 does account for 40% of my sales. We are still a

23 very small company with only six employees and any

24 closure to the two remaining open sand dune areas in

25 California would be a devastating blow to my



1 business.

2 I am very disturbed that the BLM has  
3 elected not to defend itself in Southwest Center for  
4 Biological Diversity vs. BLM. You are a public  
5 agency and I am appalled that the infrastructure and  
6 politics of the BLM have led to the situation we are  
7 facing today.

8 I as a citizen of the United States and  
9 resident of California request that the BLM consider  
10 the following:

- 11 1. Stand and fight this lawsuit.
- 12 2. Do an independent study of the habitat of  
13 the Peirson's milk vetch to determine if it actually  
14 belongs on the endangered species list at all.
- 15 3. Do not allow the closure of any more OHV  
16 areas within the California Desert District without  
17 adequate input and consideration from local citizens  
18 and governments. Due process is paramount and  
19 required by the Constitution of the United States.

20 The Endangered Species Act is not a  
21 Constitutional amendment so it is NOT immune to due  
22 process under the law.

23 In my mind the BLM has not been  
24 trustworthy. The time you allowed for comment and  
25 the lack of notification for the California Desert

1 District was totally inadequate and an insult to the  
2 off-road community. The comment period should be  
3 reopened and be a minimum of 120 days with adequate  
4 notification to all parties affected by the decisions  
5 of your Council.

6 Signed:

7 Ronald P. Scott

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1 From: Stephen G. McKee

2 Address: 11577 Knoll Vista Street

3 Moreno Valley, California

4

5 Bureau of Land Management -- a public

6 agency which manages the "public" lands for many

7 uses. In Southern California, one of the most

8 important uses is recreation. People need the space

9 to get away from the stress of the city. Off-road

10 vehicle recreation with access to all of the lands is

11 my goal. I am here on this earth now. I don't feel

12 land should be preserved with no vehicular access.

13 Many areas have been closed which were some of my

14 favorite hunting sites. I am also an avid hiker and

15 hunter, along with being a dune rider. I am against

16 further closure of any areas at Glamis and I would

17 like to see roads extended from Highway 78 to

18 Highway 8.

19 As to enforcement:

20 I am against the helmet laws. I feel

21 that this should be a matter of choice. I do feel a

22 helmet is important but there are times when I would

23 like to go for an easy ride and not be looking over

24 my shoulder for the "Dunes Police."

25 Flags -- Very necessary in the dunes but

1 for a motorcycle, it is more a hazard than a help.

2 "Dunes Police" -- I would like to see any  
3 enforcement efforts to speed within campsite areas,  
4 theft, and violent crime. Glamis will always need  
5 resources for emergency response. Accidents will  
6 happen in all activity. By number of people going to  
7 the dunes there will be a significant number of  
8 injuries.

9 High desert areas -- Existing roads  
10 should be allowed to remain open for access by  
11 miners, hunters, etc.

12 I am voting for less government.

13 Bush and Cheney 2000

14 Glamis is the greatest sand area that  
15 draws people from other states; don't make it like  
16 Pismo Beach where nobody goes because it is so small  
17 now.

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1 From: James D. Eger

2 Address: 19841 Kinzie Street

3 Chatsworth, California 91311

4

5 I would like to ask that the BLM not bend

6 to the will of a minority of land closing activists

7 with no input or chance to get support from the

8 people using the land.

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1 From: Renee Queren

2 Address: 19841 Kinzie Street

3 Chatsworth, California 91311

4

5 I wish the BLM would not settle any

6 lawsuits out of court! I believe that the public

7 needs to know more about what is going on!

8 I also believe that no one group should

9 be able to close down any public land. We all have

10 the right to use any land that we all pay taxes on.

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1 From: Matt Mazzo

2 With Mystic Customs

3 Address: Post Office Box 10612

4 Fullerton, California 92838

5

6 I respectfully request that you consider

7 the lives affected by the closure of off-road areas.

8 There have been enough areas closed. Enough is

9 enough.

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1 From: Mike Mendeola

2 Mendeola Racing

3 Address: 290 Trousdale Drive

4 Chula Vista, California 91910

5 (619) 691-1000

6

7 Off-road users need more input in the

8 evaluation of land use. Our views are considered

9 secondary. This mind set must stop.

10 Mike Mendeola

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1 From: Troy Tennison

2 Address: 2613 Irvington Avenue

3 San Bernardino, California 92407

4

5 I think we are heading in the right

6 direction by cleaning up Glamis and getting rid of

7 the undesirables. Glamis has been our family's main

8 recreation for my whole life and if it gets closed

9 down not just the people going there would be hurt.

10 Business in the area would suffer and any recreation

11 business would suffer.

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1 From: Michelle Spears

2 Address: 11085-1/2 Kadota

3 Pomona, California 91766

4

5 Glamis is a good clean way of recreation

6 for so many families. You take away our recreation,

7 you take away quality time that we can be sharing

8 with each other. Closing Glamis will not only hurt

9 the surrounding communities, it will also place a

10 hurt on connected businesses and the people that they

11 employ. Please leave our dunes open for the many

12 reasons that are too much to list. I would love for

13 you to take a trip to Glamis with us so that you

14 could understand our point of view.

15 Many thanks,

16 Michelle Spears

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1 From: Grant George

2 Address:

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4 I as a manufacturer of OHVs have a

5 twofold interest in the OHV Management Strategy.

6 Particularly the ISDRA. 95% of my business is

7 predicated on the dunes. I employ nine people that a

8 closure would impact. Secondly, my family as a

9 whole -- mother, father, brothers, wife, and

10 children -- all use the Dunes as our form of

11 recreation. We live, eat, and breathe sand. Please

12 consider all sides of this issue. OHV are caring,

13 thoughtful individuals.

14 Grant George

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1 From: Richard Spears

2 Address: 7759 Elmhurst Avenue

3 Rancho Cucamonga, California 91730

4

5 I think that we're headed in the right

6 direction on getting rid of the undesirables. This

7 is my family's only form of recreation. If it were

8 taken away, our children would be on the streets to

9 get in trouble. If it was taken from us, many

10 industries would suffer: trailer, motor homes,

11 Brawley, etc.

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1 From: Tom Pekarck

2 Address: 7435 Pico Avenue

3 Riverside, California 92509

4

5 The BLM needs to think about if they

6 close more land to the public, the more harm will be

7 done to what is left. I want government land -- "all

8 government land" -- open to everyone.

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1 From: Matt Cutler

2 Address: 10350 Ellis Avenue

3 Fountain Valley, California 92708

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5 Public lands need to be kept open to the

6 public. The BLM needs to recognize the rights of the

7 off-road community to enjoy our public lands in a

8 responsible manner. Land use issues need to be

9 addressed in such a way as to not exclude the

10 off-road contingent. Thank you.

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1 From: Derek Ross

2 Address: 156 E. Laxford Street

3 Glendora, California 91740

4 (626) 963-0169

5

6 Glamis has been a family tradition since

7 before I was born. We make annual outings once a

8 month, support in the cleanups, and pay our annual

9 fee. A few bad people have given us all a bad rap,

10 and we need to prove our support! Closing Glamis

11 would deprive thousands of people family

12 entertainment. We need to keep this form of

13 recreation available so I can take my kids out there!

14 Please don't let a bad group of people ruin fun that

15 so many enjoy. We will fly our checkered flag to

16 show our support, and attend any meetings necessary.

17 Thank you greatly for your consideration!

18 Derek Ross

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1 From: Ron Grieve

2 Address: 9880 Mesa Street

3 Victorville, California 92392

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5 Leave the desert open.

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1 From: Brian E. Radigan

2 Address: 4318 Pacific Avenue

3 Rubidoux, California 92509

4

5 There are already too few OHV recreation

6 areas left, and provisions must be made to open new

7 areas as environmental concerns force more and more

8 closures. Access to our public lands must remain

9 available for all forms of recreational activities,

10 including OHV use. The Wilderness Protection Act of

11 1943 was meant to insure that decisions regarding

12 land use be made by the public, not by a bureaucracy.

13 A reasonable amount of time is needed for public

14 input on land closure issues in the future to allow

15 the OHV community to represent themselves fairly.

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1 From: Tammy Smith

2 Address: 3923 Elma Road

3 Pasadena, California 91107

4

5 We have been going out to Glamis for

6 years and it has always been a family outing. We

7 have always helped out at the Glamis cleanup. If you

8 close Glamis down, then you will be putting a lot of

9 businesses out and ending our family tradition. I

10 want my kids to experience everything I have out at

11 Glamis. Please do not close Glamis down!

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1 From: Bob Mason

2 Address: 11553 Dellwood Drive

3 Riverside, California 92523

4

5 My family has been going to Glamis for

6 20 years and it has kept us together. We respect the

7 Dunes and the other families that go there. I

8 realize that it is a privilege to have the

9 opportunity to go there. I have participated in the

10 cleanups. I believe that there is very few people

11 that are ruining it for the rest of us. I feel that

12 there could be more supervision and stiff fines for

13 those who violate the policies.

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1 From: Howard Shelton

2 Address: 10036 Los Ranchitos

3 San Diego, California

4

5 This is a family outing and has kept my

6 family doing this togetherness thing since I was very

7 little and I'm 31 years old now and we are still

8 doing this together. It's a great hobby and a great

9 family thing for kids. Excuse my writing; I'm doing

10 this on a window ledge. Thank you.

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1 From: Don Ross

2 Address: 156 E. Laxford Street

3 Glendora, California 91740

4

5 This has been a family outing for us for  
6 30 years and has promoted high family values and  
7 respect for our open land. We have supported and  
8 participated in all cleanup efforts.

9 We do not feel this closure would be good  
10 for the masses of families who truly appreciate the  
11 use of our land.

12 We do support any additional policing and  
13 efforts to eliminate any trouble or rowdy crowds.  
14 These people need to be dealt with on an individual  
15 basis and not punish the people who really enjoy and  
16 respect our open land.

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1 From: Tim Hewze

2 Address: 17248 Marigold

3 Fontana, California

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5 Keep all the desert open.

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1 From: Danny Brisbin

2 Address: 14744 Westward Drive

3 Fontana, California 92337

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5 Keep all the deserts open.

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1 From: Dave R. Baumann

2 Address: 14319 Old Community Road

3 Poway, California 92064

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5 Here to support non-closure of our

6 deserts.

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1 From: Jeff Taylor

2 Address: 222 North Flower

3 Orange, California 92868

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5 The land is for everybody. We need

6 reasonable balance for us to have our share of use of

7 the land.

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1 From: David A. Baumann

2 Address: 14319 Old Community Road

3 Poway, California 92064

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5 We want the desert kept open. It is a

6 family tradition to be there and respect it. We have

7 enjoyed the activities since 1967. We are there and

8 love everything about it.

9 I am here to support -- KEEP IT OPEN.

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1 From: Alan Draper

2 Address: 1316 Aldersgate Drive

3 La Verne, California 91750

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5 Please keep public lands open for

6 responsible recreation.

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1 From: James Westkamp

2 Address: 1316 Aldersgate Drive

3 La Verne, California 91750

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5 Keep the desert open!

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1 From: Larry Hughes

2 Address: 1204 Village Drive

3 La Habra, California 90631

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5 I wish to keep all areas open to

6 vehicles. I am a responsible user and enjoy

7 off-roading.

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1 From: Jack Spreier

2 Address: 5831 Warwick Circle

3 La Palma, California 90623

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5 Please make sure all aspects are

6 considered before making the decision to close

7 Glamis Dunes.

8 Glamis is a family sport for our family.

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1 From: Tracy Spreier

2 Address: 5831 Warwick Circle

3 La Palma, California 90623

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5 We are respectful of the environment when

6 we are at the dunes and know that other duners are,

7 also.

8 Please research all avenues before making

9 your decision to close Glamis Dunes.

10 Thank you.

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1 From: Herman A. Schneider

2 Address: 343 Frankfurt Avenue

3 West Covina, California 91792

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5 Don't close any part of the Imperial Sand

6 Dunes.

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1 From: Greg Hislop

2 Address: 11956 Bernardo Plaza Drive, No. 138

3 San Diego, California 92128

4

5 I am here today to represent 30 people

6 from San Diego that currently ride and actively

7 participate in OR activities. I would like to voice

8 the concern and options that we all share. Each year

9 off-road activities become more popular, with the

10 numbers increasing steadily. We would like to

11 respectfully request BLM to consider not reducing the

12 size of the areas that ORVs may legally operate but,

13 in fact, increase the areas.

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1 From: Curtis Eisner

2 Address: 1513 Paiute

3 Barstow, California 92311

4

5 We are new at off-roading and wish to be

6 able to keep on going to the Dunes. We are an older

7 couple and we see so much family togetherness with

8 this sport. We need more of this in this country

9 today. If you keep taking the land away from us,

10 there will be so little left for a family to get away

11 together. We live in the high desert and we do our

12 part in keeping it clean. There are always bad

13 apples in all barrels. We are the good apples and

14 always do our part. Please leave the Dunes to us.

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1 From: Vickie Dowaliby

2 Address: 27920 Rainier Road

3 Castaic, California 91384

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5 Since 1971 I have been going to Glamis.

6 My parents took all five of their children (myself

7 included) there every chance they could get. We grew

8 up learning to admire and respect the beauty of the

9 desert and the environment. We were never allowed to

10 leave after a camping trip without picking up cans,

11 trash, or other items surrounding camp. Now that I

12 am an adult, I can appreciate even more the

13 importance of the family values I was taught as a

14 child. All five of my siblings still go to Glamis to

15 this day. We watched the closure of the north side

16 of Highway 8 even though my parents were right there

17 protesting. We gave up our land then. Where will it

18 stop? If recreational lands continue to be taken

19 away from us, what is going to happen to our

20 children? I have a five-month-old child and would

21 like to see her grow up loving Glamis as I did. There

22 are very positive things that come out of

23 off-roading. If children aren't able to use the

24 lands and be with their families in positive ways,

25 I'm afraid of what may become of their future.

1           What impact will the closure have on  
2 people, businesses who make their money through  
3 off-roading? Myself and hundreds of people I know  
4 have spent thousands of dollars on RVs, sandrails,  
5 and other OHV vehicles. We spend money on green  
6 stickers; we pay our taxes. I think that the impact  
7 on the economy should be considered as well as the  
8 environment! We have a right to use our land. In  
9 the 30 years of off-roading, I can say that the  
10 milkweed has been very prevalent and has not been  
11 affected by off-roading. I met my husband at Glamis  
12 and we have a lot of memories there. Please keep our  
13 desert open!

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1 From: Yvette White

2 Address: 27909 Rainier Road

3 Castaic, California 91384

4

5 As a mother of four, I would like to

6 bring up the fact that our children are our future.

7 This settlement involving the closure of recreational

8 lands due to OHV users inhibiting the growth of a

9 rare (?) plant is very upsetting to me for many

10 reasons. One is that if these closures occur in our

11 deserts, how soon will they occur in all of our other

12 parks (which they already have anyway)? Another

13 reason is that these closures are limiting my family

14 vacations. If they continue and continue, my

15 children's experiences with nature will be severely

16 hindered. I don't want children to have nothing

17 better to do than to play video games at 7-Eleven or

18 watch the "idiot box" (TV) all day on the weekends.

19 I strongly feel that complacency towards

20 the people who want to spend their free time

21 exploring nature in a natural setting by the

22 environmentalists is going to have negative effects

23 on our society. If parents cannot show their

24 children the beauty in the world by exploring nature,

25 what kind of future will we have?

1           We, as OHV users, according to the  
2 environmentalists in this particular case, are  
3 inhibiting the growth of a plant. I am suggesting  
4 that these closures (the effects of them) are  
5 inhibiting the growth of my children, therefore  
6 inhibiting the growth of our future.

7           P.S. Just for the sake of saying it, my  
8 husband and I have purchased, in the last year only,  
9 a \$55,000.00 sand car, a \$103,000.00 motor home;  
10 rebuilt two quads for our children. We have invested  
11 so much time and money into our family vacations. The  
12 money we have spent on this supports so many people  
13 and their families. There is a much bigger picture  
14 than someone focusing on a plant can see.

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1 From: Andrew Dehart

2 Address: 11532 Rincon Drive

3 Whittier, California 90606

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5 1. Proposed recreation fee district policy:

6 I don't feel I should have to pay to access public  
7 land. Please do not support recreation fee policies.

8 2. Imperial Sand Dunes: This issue,

9 lawsuit, should not be settled out of court. All

10 lawsuits against the BLM should be taken to the end

11 with a trial by a jury that truly represent the

12 public, not special interests. This should be the

13 BLM policy: No out-of-court settlements.

14 3. I encourage you to include provisions in

15 any OHV management plan to include a one-for-one

16 replacement for accesses closed to public lands. Each

17 closure should include an opening somewhere else.

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1 From: Dennis Dresher

2 Address: 23364 Woodpecker Parkway

3 Moreno Valley, California 92557

4

5 I support multiple use, managed and

6 responsible, for existing open land. There is an

7 incredible creation that is to be enjoyed, has family

8 value, and is an asset to our communities. There is

9 no good that would come from closing access to the

10 land. Land access is being taken away by so many

11 reasons: Executive Order, endangered species, etc.

12 It is a sad day when we are not allowed in an area

13 that is possible to enjoy without impacting in a

14 negative manner the habitat. Some areas do need

15 protection, but the due process with local

16 governments and public input should be more

17 important. Better communication about meetings and

18 events.

19 Thank you.

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1 From:

2 Address:

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4 My parents started taking me camping and

5 riding in 1964. It wasn't until my adult years that

6 I realized the value of that time spent with my

7 parents. I was informed about safety first and then

8 about respect for everyone and everything around me.

9 I am now raising my own kids and they are still on

10 the right track even in their teenage years. I am

11 proud to be raising my kids the same way that my

12 parents raised me. Over the years I have watched as

13 our riding areas have vanished. We used to have full

14 access to Pismo Beach, Kelso Dunes, Coral Pink Dunes,

15 and the majority of the California Desert. All of

16 these areas are either closed or heavily restricted.

17 We have been pushed out of so many areas and forced

18 into so few that our sport has become very dangerous.

19 Certain special interest groups continue to push for

20 closures, hoping to keep us out of every area that

21 they target. They have abused the Endangered Species

22 Act time and time again with the intention of

23 stopping all off-road activity. I am not willing to

24 give up the lifestyle that I love so much or the

25 lifestyle that keeps my kids off drugs and out of

1 trouble.

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1 From: Jerry Snow

2 Address: 1438 Sheridan Road

3 San Bernardino, California 92407

4

5 I am told that the passes that are used

6 at Glamis come at a staggering cost. I am told that

7 the company that installed the pass machines got

8 \$300,000 off the top of returns, plus a percentage of

9 the take.

10 I propose that we initiate a federal

11 stamp (such as the green stickers). These stamps can

12 be issued by DMV of all states and should be used on

13 all off-road vehicles on federal lands. These stamps

14 issued by DMV or on location would not incur a vendor

15 cost. And all the revenue would be funneled back

16 into BLM and U.S. Forests.

17 More information E-mail [jsnow@p.e.net](mailto:jsnow@p.e.net)

18 P.S. We could send the pass machine

19 packing.

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21

22

23

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25

1 From: Rodney G. Howe

2 Address: Box 1137

3 Jamus, California 91935

4

5 I am hopeful that the BLM will proceed  
6 with an open mind and not condemn all OHV activity as  
7 reckless. It is important to realize that the  
8 majority of off-roaders are responsible and  
9 respectful of the desert. The desert is large enough  
10 to accommodate responsible OHV use, as well as  
11 protected areas for conservation. Most OHV users  
12 support strict law enforcement and wish to see those  
13 who break the law held accountable. I believe OHV  
14 users and the environmentalist organizations can find  
15 common ground and an acceptable agreement can be  
16 reached.

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1 From: David, Kathy, Jennifer MacKenzie

2 Address: 12802 Camino del Valle

3 Poway, California 92064

4

5 We would like very much for the BLM to

6 keep open as many areas as possible. If anything,

7 you should be expanding the number of areas available

8 and year after year there only seem to be less. My

9 family (and many others) enjoy our weekends together

10 away from the everyday insanity and would like to do

11 so for many years to come. We are off-road users,

12 not abusers.

13 Thank you,

14 Dave MacKenzie

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1 From: Curtis A. Schendel

2 Address: 1624 Packard Circle

3 Corona, California 91882

4

5 The off-road use of land has been a

6 lifestyle that me and my family have grown up with

7 over the years. It promotes family values, unity,

8 and closeness that cannot be found in most

9 activities. I hope all of you can see the positive

10 aspects and pass this on to future generations.

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1 From: Richard Hold

2 Address: Post Office Box 6153

3 Crestline, California 92325

4

5 The Imperial Sand Dunes and our outlying

6 desert have proven to be a fantastic family

7 recreation.

8 My children -- 15, 11, 9 -- remain

9 motivated in school in part because of the knowledge

10 that they will not ride if grades are not up to par.

11 They are also learning that there is

12 value to the plant and animal life out there; so we

13 stay on maintained trails.

14 I cannot believe that there are no

15 compromises here. The vast majority of

16 recreationalists do not wish to hurt the environment.

17 Sand dunes reform with wind, G.O.L. is

18 organizing extra cleanups, and we would like further

19 studies of the effects on vegetation. Glamis

20 provides its own proving ground north of Highway 78.

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1 From: Joni Wilhelm

2 Address: 1605 Calavo Road

3 Fallbrook, California 92028

4

5 I feel that as a member of the "OHV  
6 community," sufficient time has not been given for  
7 our group to research the National OHV Management  
8 Strategy. Most of us have devoted a great deal of  
9 our lives to our sport, as well as a lot of money. I  
10 strongly feel that the majority of us have the  
11 protection and preservation of our desert in our  
12 minds. At 45 years old, single mother of four  
13 daughters, I grew up with OHVs in my life, as have my  
14 children. We continue to go as a family. Our sport  
15 has kept us in a close relationship even during the  
16 trying teenage years. I am willing to do whatever it  
17 takes to support the OHV community. I strongly feel  
18 that additional time is necessary to research the OHV  
19 strategy.

20 Thank you,

21 Joni Wilhelm

22

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25



1 From: Brian Coffman

2 Address: 3901 American River Road

3 Ontario, California 91761

4

5 I have been riding off-road since I was

6 10 years old. I am now 33. Off-road riding has

7 provided me with a lot of fun, also has kept me out

8 of trouble.

9 About five years ago I started riding at

10 Glamis. I have started taking children from my

11 neighborhood with me and my family. I will never

12 forget what my nephew said the first time at Glamis.

13 He said to me that "This is better than Disneyland

14 10 times over." My group always follows the tread

15 lite rules and always cleans up all trash taken.

16 Please do not take this joy away from the kids and

17 adults.

18 Respectfully,

19 Brian Coffman

20

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1 From: Scott Hurst

2 Address: 2833 Campo Raso

3 San Clemente, California 92673

4

5 I would like the BLM to consider all

6 groups and activities for use of public land.

7 Environmental protection is necessary; however,

8 designated areas for off-road use is necessary, as

9 well. Glamis Dunes is certainly one of those

10 off-road areas.

11 I would also be in favor of increased use

12 for the Glamis area to provide cleanup maintenance

13 and patrol of the area to insure proper responsible

14 use.

15 Thank you for considering my comments.

16 Scott Hurst

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1 From: Michael Hill

2 Address: 7053 Greeley Street

3 Tajunga, California 91042

4

5 In the matter of the closure of Imperial

6 Sand Dunes, closure and all other OHV areas. This

7 issue is being played out in quiet back rooms and is

8 not being properly displayed to the public at large.

9 This is an issue that requires immediate resolution.

10 There is no excuse for this irresponsibility. I

11 fully intend to assist the organized groups

12 supporting the off-roaders was of life.

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1 From: Peter S. Di Primo

2 Address: 1547 Emeric Avenue

3 Simi Valley, California 93065

4

5 The National OHV Management Strategy must

6 be designed in such a way to expand off highway

7 travel. The public is entitled to be able to use our

8 own land. I realize there are some areas that need

9 to be protected, and I support some conservation

10 efforts. But the public must not be locked out of

11 our own land. Closing off areas to motorized travel

12 is not acceptable. Some citizens are not capable of

13 visiting the forests and deserts without the use of

14 motorized vehicles.

15 The BLM should not settle the lawsuit

16 involving the Sierra Club and the Imperial Sand Dunes

17 out of court. The BLM, in the best interest of the

18 citizens of the United States of America, needs to

19 pursue this through the legal system. The Dunes are

20 a way of life for many generations of Americans. To

21 close them is like telling people their heritage

22 doesn't matter. The thought of putting a "weed"

23 before a way of life is not acceptable. The Dunes

24 must be kept open for everyone to enjoy.

25 The proposed Recreation Fee District

1 Policy is not in the best interest of the people and  
2 families that use the land. American citizens pay  
3 taxes to maintain and care for our public lands. We  
4 should not be asked to pay again. I am disabled and  
5 on a restricted income. Implication of a Recreation  
6 Fee would put an end to my enjoyment of the outdoors  
7 and the visiting of public lands. I cannot afford to  
8 be required to pay to use public land. I'm sure you  
9 are aware that most people recreating on public lands  
10 are in the upper-lower to lower-middle income  
11 brackets. This fee, if imposed, would essentially  
12 double tax us out of public lands. There has to be a  
13 better way to spend the money already allotted for  
14 maintenance, rather than double taxing the American  
15 public to use our land.

16       Thank you for the opportunity to comment  
17 on the above-stated topics. It is imperative that  
18 these decisions be based on input from the people who  
19 use the land and not those who sit in air-conditioned  
20 offices in the city. I hope you will consider my  
21 comments, along with the comments of others, to reach  
22 a well-rounded, balanced decision. I also hope the  
23 decisions will reflect the majority of comments, as  
24 well as be in the best interest of the American  
25 people.

1       Sincerely,  
2       Peter S. Di Primo  
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1 From: David Ginther

2 Address: 11807 Champion Drive

3 Olympia, Washington 98512

4

5 I strongly urge you to not close any  
6 public lands to OHV access. In cases where a closure  
7 unavoidable due to unmitigatable environmental  
8 problems it should be required that another OHV  
9 recreation area of equal size and quality is opened  
10 up in a less environmentally sensitive area. Leaving  
11 lands only open for hiking is not public access in my  
12 opinion. Some of us cannot hike or are very limited  
13 in our ability to traverse terrain on foot. This fact  
14 never crossed my mind until I was discussing the  
15 subject of new wilderness designations with a client  
16 of mine who had Multiple Sclerosis. She used to be a  
17 mountain climber and when she heard that a road in  
18 the Mt. Rainier National Park was to remain closed  
19 and become a hiking trail only, she was very upset.  
20 This act by the land managers effectively cut off her  
21 access to some of the most beautiful public lands in  
22 the country. One of the reasons that my family and I  
23 enjoy OHV recreation is that we can access some very  
24 beautiful and magnificent lands that we would not be  
25 able to if it was closed to OHV recreation. To

1 summarize my comments: Do not close any public lands  
2 to OHV access! Thank you for considering my  
3 comments.

4 P.S. Even though I live in Washington,  
5 my family and I travel around the U.S. seeking new  
6 OHV opportunities. Our vacations and free time are  
7 centered around OHV recreation.

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1 From: Ken Williams

2 Address: 40010 Vis Espana

3 Murrieta, California 92562

4

5 As a citizen, I am deeply concerned about

6 the closure(s) of public lands to the OHV community.

7 I have been involved in off-road use for 30+ years

8 and over that time I have seen many areas closed to

9 off-road use. At the same time, the population has

10 increased significantly and more and more people are

11 forced to use less and less land. As I understand

12 it, this is public land for the use of all of the

13 public, not just a few. As the areas get more

14 congested, the impact to the land is much greater,

15 which leads to even more restrictions and closures.

16 Management of these public lands requires a balance

17 that serves the needs of all of the users of the

18 land. There are much more lands closed to motorized

19 vehicle use than there are open areas for OHV use.

20 The segments of the population that use the land for

21 other uses have many, many areas for their pursuits,

22 while our available areas continue to shrink. This

23 is not management for all; this is management for the

24 special interest groups. The potential closure of

25 Glamis is an example of this misuse of the public's

1 trust. I would venture a guess that more of the  
2 population is aware of and participates in the use of  
3 OHVs than have a clue as to what a Peirson's  
4 Milk Vetch is. On large weekends, it has been  
5 estimated that more than 100,000 people visit Glamis.  
6 If closed, where will these people go? Will they  
7 walk away from their investments in equipment and  
8 abandon their hobby? Perhaps, but more likely they  
9 will go to another, already crowded location, and in  
10 doing so, increase the environmental impact on that  
11 area, until it is closed and the cycle is continued.  
12 Please consider our needs when the special interest  
13 groups want to take our rights away, because we are  
14 the public, too.

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1 From: Norm Lester

2 Address: 3191 East La Palma Avenue

3 Anaheim, California 92806

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5 I would like the BLM to recommend that

6 more appropriate means of informing the public on

7 issues regarding public land be utilized. An example

8 would be a requirement that all green sticker

9 registrations also ask for an E-mail address so that

10 owners of OHV may be informed of issues and lawsuits

11 regarding public land. If E-mail is not an option,

12 then a bulk mailing to the green sticker registrants

13 informing them of the same issues. There should also

14 be an avenue in which the public can readily get

15 information regarding lawsuits and closures on public

16 land. This avenue should be common knowledge for the

17 public to promote easy access to the issues. I think

18 the public should have more say in lawsuits that

19 affect the land they use. Pending lawsuits should

20 include more public comment in addition to that of

21 Council and intervenors.

22

23

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25

1 From: Bob Newsome

2 Address: 309 E. Solana Drive

3 Tempe, Arizona 85281

4

5 It has become apparent over the last few  
6 years that not all visitors to the Imperial Sand  
7 Dunes have the same respect and love for the sand  
8 dunes as my family and I. I clearly understand the  
9 concerns voiced regarding this. The individuals that  
10 leave their trash and destroy wildlife should be held  
11 accountable for their actions. I too am angry at  
12 those who jeopardize the safety of those around them  
13 and the preservation of the dunes. But the majority  
14 in this sport are quality people who have substantial  
15 amounts of money invested in duning and are willing  
16 to offer help without hesitation to resolve these  
17 issues. My family and I personally have spent  
18 numerous hours picking up trash left by others and  
19 make every effort to always follow safety guidelines.  
20 I strongly feel with the implementation of the User  
21 Fee Program and other programs in the works, we can  
22 get the bad element out of the dunes, keep the dunes  
23 open, and still keep them preserved.

24 Thank you,

25 Bob Newsome

1 From: Suzie Newsome & Family

2 Address: 309 E. Solana Drive

3 Tempe, Arizona 85281

4

5 Almost 20 years ago my father loaded up

6 my family and drove us out to this very hot, dry, and

7 dusty piece of desert, now called Buttercup Valley.

8 We all unloaded from our motor home to the most

9 breathtaking sight I had ever seen. We were

10 surrounded by beautiful walls of sand as soft as

11 powder sugar.

12 Throughout my youth I spent hundreds of

13 weekends with my family in the dunes learning not

14 only to ride but learning the value of respect that

15 goes along with this sport.

16 I am now 30 and have a daughter of my

17 own, Mimi, who, too, at the age of one, already loves

18 the sweet powder sugar sand. I have always looked

19 forward to showing Mimi all the fun and enjoyment of

20 riding in the dunes, along with teaching her the

21 family values my parents taught me on our dune

22 trips. I ask that the dunes be left open for

23 families like mine to enjoy and cherish for

24 generations to come.

25 Thank you, Bob, Suzie, and Mimi Newsome

1 From: Andrew, Kim, and Zack DeLage

2 Address: 315 E. Solana Drive

3 Tempe, Arizona 85281

4 (480) 968-6138

5

6 I am writing this letter to express my  
7 deep concerns regarding the possible closure of the  
8 Imperial Sand Dune Recreation area, or part thereof,  
9 to ATV use.

10 Back in the winter of 1988, I visited the  
11 Imperial Sand Dunes for the first time. An  
12 "industry" friend had relocated to Phoenix a year or  
13 so before and bragged about the sense of freedom and  
14 the incredible access to the great outdoors. Being a  
15 lover of Nature, I flew to Phoenix to see it for  
16 myself. I was only here for a few days, but my  
17 friend introduced me to some great people and to this  
18 exhilarating sport we call "duning." Seeing the sand  
19 dunes for the first time was a truly moving  
20 experience. In fact, I went back to Michigan, got my  
21 affairs together, and moved here in the spring of  
22 1989. I have never regretted that move because over  
23 the last 10 years that "industry" friend has become  
24 one of the best friends I have ever had. His friends  
25 have become my friends and since then our circle of

1 friends has grown to include dozens of families, from  
2 all walks of life, with all ranges of incomes and  
3 from every age group. As a direct result of this  
4 friendship, I was introduced to a wonderful, single  
5 mom who has become my wife, and made me the proud dad  
6 of a terrific 7-year-old boy. The one thing that we  
7 all have in common, the one thing that binds such a  
8 diverse group of people together, is our love and  
9 respect for the Dunes.

10       I can tell you that in hundreds of trips  
11 to the Imperial Sand Dunes over the past decade, we  
12 have never left garbage behind, we have never  
13 intentionally run over or chased a desert creature,  
14 or destroyed the natural habitat. I firmly believe  
15 that nature and the sand duners can co-exist with  
16 responsible planning, not closure. I ask you to  
17 strongly consider the many tens of thousands of  
18 responsible duners and business owners whose  
19 lifestyle would be dramatically and adversely  
20 impacted by closure of the sand dunes. It is  
21 possible to manage these wonderfully desolate places  
22 for all to enjoy responsibly.

23       Andrew, Kim, and Zack DeLage

24

25

1 From: Jonathan B. Demory

2 Address: 11717 Stoney Peak Drive, No. 13

3 San Diego, California 92128

4

5 I have been going to the Imperial Sand

6 Dunes for 24 years, and in that time I have seen many

7 changes, from the closing of certain areas to the

8 creation of fees. While I do not dispute many of

9 these changes, I feel some should be revised.

10 As a third generation off-roader, I was

11 taught many things about the desert and the

12 environment, all of which involved loving,

13 respecting, and preserving the areas visited for all

14 to enjoy in the future. Individuals in many

15 environmental and political groups state that there

16 is a need to close these areas for wildlife and

17 environmental sakes. This is stated even though

18 there are currently areas designed for this.

19 I have heard today the importance of

20 preserving this desert and its history. I would like

21 to raise the question about the history made in these

22 places daily. I can only hope that future

23 generations can enjoy, respect, and love these great

24 places such as I have enjoyed and hope to continue to

25 enjoy.



1 From: Dale Davis

2 Address: 1137 North Liberty Lane

3 Anaheim, California 92805

4

5 Plan 1: We ask for the comment period be

6 extended from 30 to 120 days. 30 days is woefully

7 inadequate.

8 Lawsuit 2: Do not settle out of court on

9 any future lawsuits.

10 We also need reasonable alternatives,

11 i.e., small enclosures around selected sensitive

12 areas.

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1 From: Chad George

2 Address: 10296 Rancho Magnolia Court

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4 I don't want to close the riding area.

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1 From: Wayne Mooradian (pronounced Moo-Radian)

2 Address: 10825 Silicon Avenue

3 Montclair, California 91763

4

5 I contest the lawsuit

6 constitutionality/civil rights land closures as an

7 anti-trust violation. Lack of E.I.R. on the public,

8 business, and government. Personal comment of my

9 perception of the situation.

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1 From: Dee Stapp

2 Address: 1295 No. "E" Street

3 San Bernardino, California 92405

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5 Center for Biological Diversity Lawsuit

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1 From: Erik Anderson

2 Address: Post Office Box 2

3 Fallbrook, California 92088

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1 From: Dave Konstantin

2 Address: Post Office Box 178724

3 San Diego, California 92177

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5 I have been involved in OHV recreation

6 for many years. I see the sport as an endangered

7 activity. My family gets together regularly to

8 participate. I see BLM doing little to preserve our

9 sport!!! Every time we lose a spot we need to gain

10 one also...

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1 From: V. J. Brunasso

2 Address: 4992 Old Ranch Road

3 La Verne, California 91250

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5 User input should be a vital part of the

6 planning process.

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1 From: Don & Lori Techer

2 Address: 9390 Banning Lane

3 Fontana, California 92335

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5 The comment period was not made known to

6 the community.

7 This closure will greatly impact my

8 family's recreation.

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1 From: Bruce & Lori Zeller + Family

2 Address: 6150 W. Saskan Ranch Road

3 Flagstaff, Arizona

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5 It's one of the last motorized, drug-free

6 places I can take my wife and kids. Please don't

7 shut any part of the dunes down.

8 B.Z.

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1 From: Justin Jarrett Jenner

2 Address: 10308 Hamilton Street

3 Alta Loma, California 91701

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5 In my opinion, not giving a significant

6 time to raise awareness about our recreational

7 activities in the Imperial Sand Dunes, which is

8 enjoyed by many families and friends, is appalling,

9 and we should be given significant time to spread the

10 word, and I feel another hearing should take place

11 with an adequate amount of people to show we care.

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1 From: Justin Cole

2 Address: 1352 Kristie Lane

3 El Cajon, California 92021

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1 From: Terry Allen

2 Address: 201 W. Cypress Drive

3 Henderson, Nevada 89015

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5 This is to let you know that I feel that

6 the notification for public comment was way too short

7 and not announced to a vast majority of the public

8 using this area and living in surrounding areas.

9 I have grown u p in the off-roading

10 community, starting with my father and me exploring

11 mines in Southern Nevada and Southern California. As

12 I have grown older, I have been able to share the

13 beauty of this desert with my children and

14 grandchildren. I ask that you keep this in mind as

15 you ponder your decision(s). Removing any part of

16 this will impose hardships on people who use this

17 recreational area and the future of their children.

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1 From: Samantha Morsch

2 Address: 13120 Currant Court

3 Lakeside, California 92040

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5 This letter is in reference to the recent  
6 discussions about the development of a National  
7 Off-Highway Vehicle Management Strategy along with  
8 the lawsuit filed against the BLM by The Center for  
9 Biological Diversity, The Sierra Club, and the Public  
10 Employees for Environmental Responsibility. We  
11 represent ourselves individually and the local and  
12 regional groups known as the American Sand  
13 Association and San Diego Off-Road Coalition. The  
14 views expressed in this letter are in part or wholly  
15 supported by these organizations.

16 As background, we ride in the Imperial  
17 Sand Dunes Recreational Area (ISDRA) and surrounding  
18 desert areas. We have frequented the dunes for over  
19 10 years. On average, we make use of the ISDRA 8 to  
20 10 times a season (October to April) and surrounding  
21 desert areas 4 to 5 times a season. OHV riding is an  
22 activity we immensely enjoy and look forward to. The  
23 desert is common ground for fun, relaxation, escape  
24 from "the city," and family and friend reunions.  
25 Members of our group, consisting of around 50 people,

1 travel to the dunes from the San Jose,  
2 San Bernardino, San Diego, and Phoenix areas. For  
3 those of us with children in our future, we want to  
4 build a life consisting of trips to the desert. For  
5 those of us who have children and relatives who are  
6 children, their lives are very much incorporated into  
7 our lifestyles of family orientation and riding. It  
8 has come to our attention that our livelihood and  
9 activities are in jeopardy, and we are very concerned  
10 about this.

11 We appreciate the beauty and sacred  
12 ground of the dunes and support environmental  
13 protection. We promote environmentally responsible  
14 OHV use. We are not willing, however, to have our  
15 rights abolished by exacerbated environmental  
16 concerns and claims.

17 First, we understand the dunes sustain a  
18 sensitive ecosystem of plants and wildlife. In  
19 addition to respect for this system, the motorized  
20 vehicles we ride are expensive, and at all attempts,  
21 we avoid running over plant and animal life. However,  
22 it is our belief that sufficient land, for example,  
23 many dunes north of Highway 78, has already been  
24 allocated as a wilderness area in accordance with the  
25 Desert Protection Act of 1994. If necessary, our

1 recommendation includes an establishment of trails to  
2 reclaim and create or restore routes to satisfy both  
3 parties arguing our rights.

4       Secondly, more individuals are visiting  
5 the dunes as OHV use becomes more popular. As with  
6 any increased population, secondary issues arise that  
7 must be compensated for, such as trash and law  
8 enforcement issues. We are aware of the escalating  
9 issues, and we are taking action. We pick up our  
10 trash in our camps, including anything left behind  
11 when we arrive. The organizations we belong to host  
12 cleanups where we gather waste left behind by others.  
13 We want nothing more than to have a clean area to  
14 vacation in. As far as the bad element, we are proud  
15 to say many in our group are either retired or active  
16 law enforcement. We are responsible and protect what  
17 we can, and for what is out of bounds, we rely on the  
18 rangers to enforce. We support increased  
19 enforcement. We have gone so far as to supply each  
20 rider in our group with supplemental black-and-white  
21 checkered flags, an indication that we support the  
22 rangers. We are doing what we can as responsible OHV  
23 enthusiasts and visitors to the dunes.

24       Our last concern is of economic impact.  
25 With total dune closure, hundreds of businesses will

1 be affected. This includes the tourism dollars in  
2 cities such as El Centro, Brawley, Yuma, the  
3 surrounding cities, and in our home towns. These  
4 dollars are spent on gas, storage, hotels, auto part  
5 stores, RV repair places, and OHV shops. On a more  
6 personal note, we own on average \$40,000 per family  
7 in equipment. With total dune closure, we are  
8 looking at equipment that is virtually useless and  
9 worthless.

10 All the years we've been frequenting the  
11 desert, it's been free. Within the last two years  
12 there was a implementation of ISDRA fees. In  
13 addition, we pay for California green sticker fees.  
14 We support the user fees as long as these funds are  
15 allocated to directly supporting the operation of the  
16 dunes. OHV riders are paying the money; it only  
17 makes sense to allocate those monies towards our  
18 interests, such as keeping the dunes open, law  
19 enforcement support, and promoting a responsible,  
20 clean, and safe family environment. However, it is  
21 our concern a record amount of money is being  
22 collected for OHV use, but the areas are being  
23 classified limited or closed at a record rate. We  
24 believe the money not only should be used for  
25 managing the existing off-road areas, but also be



1 used to expand these areas as well as open up new OHV  
2 areas.

3       We urge you to uphold the BLM mission  
4 "...to sustain the health, diversity, and  
5 productivity of the public lands for the use and  
6 enjoyment of present and future generations." It is  
7 our belief the BLM must equally protect our rights  
8 and elect representatives to support both OHV and  
9 environmental rights and concerns. In short, we are  
10 proud to be off-roaders. We need to work together as  
11 a team, protecting both the environment and our right  
12 to ride.

13       With great concern,  
14       Glenn Scharf (small business owner)  
15       Mindy Pofahl  
16       Samantha Morsch  
17       cc: recorder of DAC 10/21/00 meeting  
18       Bureau of Land Management,  
19       OHV Comment Manager

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1 From: Michael Rodriguez

2 Address: 624 East Barbara Avenue

3 West Covina, California 91790

4

5 Does this plant actually live and thrive

6 in the area that is being proposed for closure? Yes

7 or no?

8 Shouldn't we have evidence that this

9 plant is growing in the closure area before it is

10 closed?

11 Shouldn't the areas that are already

12 closed off be surveyed to see if this plant is

13 growing there?

14 We have many reports from different

15 individuals that the plant is currently growing to

16 the West of Glamis throughout the bombing range, also

17 in areas east of El Centro and East of Glamis (past

18 Boardmanville). The best part of these findings is

19 that the plant is already growing in an area that is

20 closed off to all OHVs North of the 78.

21 60 to 70% of the ISDRA seems like an

22 awful large area, especially when you consider that

23 this plant is thriving in larger numbers outside of

24 this proposed area. I think at this point promoting

25 awareness and also having some sort of study done

1 would be more prudent to everyone involved.

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1 From: Alan Klumph

2 Address: 9666 Petite Lane

3 Lakeside, California 92040

4 1. No one in the public has seen this yet.

5 More time is needed to receive copies and review it

6 before meaningful input can be provided. Maybe that

7 is the plan. Under the current Presidential

8 administration, these type of issues have generally

9 been dictated from above what is going to happen and

10 what is going to be. Public input has generally been

11 ignored except that that comes from the radical

12 preservationists' agenda to restrict the general

13 public from public lands. Please do the right thing

14 and give this plan time to be reviewed and take

15 honest input from all sides of the debate and then

16 implement plans that serve all concerned in fairness.

17 2. The BLM needs to stand up for the

18 off-roaders' right to use the dunes. Where are the

19 studies you have been doing? Why don't you use that

20 as evidence that off-road vehicles are not causing

21 harm to the endangered plants and animals? Why have

22 you not consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

23 Service as is being contested by the plaintiffs? Why

24 are you not arguing for only a partial closure until

25 the consultation is done? Are you really working to

1 protect this valuable recreation area for the people  
2 who use it, or are you once again caving in to  
3 "orders from above"?  
4 3. Another plan to stick the users with more  
5 fees that has not seen the day of light in the public  
6 arena. More plans to take the users' money to help  
7 finance more closures, no doubt. Are there any plans  
8 to start charging users to access wilderness areas? I  
9 haven't seen this plan yet but I can tell you that it  
10 stinks already.

11 In summary, I can tell you firsthand that  
12 the user community is getting fed up with what has  
13 been going on to restrict recreation uses and to  
14 implement new fees. It is well past time to stop  
15 pandering to the special interests of the leaders of  
16 the extreme environmental groups that seem to be  
17 driving the agendas of the administration in  
18 Washington, D.C. Do the right things for all the  
19 people and not just the radical preservationists.

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1 From: Donald S. Fraser

2 Address: 26 Peppertree Drive

3 Rancho Palos Verdes, California 90275

4

5 I am unable to attend your meeting on

6 October 21 in Barstow, California. However, please

7 enter this letter in the public comments record for

8 your meeting.

9 I note that among the briefings listed to

10 be covered in this meeting is the subject "Recreation

11 Fee Policy." The fee program as administered by the

12 U.S. Forest Service has generated more ill will

13 towards that agency than any program they have ever

14 started. No fair-minded person objects to fees for

15 campgrounds, marinas, elaborate visitors' centers,

16 and other facilities that cost money to build and

17 operate. Please use better judgment in operating

18 your fee program than the Forest Service used in

19 their program. It is proper to charge for specific

20 facilities that the BLM provides, but I urge you not

21 to close off vast unimproved areas where there is

22 nothing but wilderness or desert land. Low and

23 moderate income families need someplace they can go

24 to enjoy nature without paying a stiff fee. These

25 are the very people who need someplace to go for

1 relief from their "pressure-cooker" lives in our  
2 tightly packed urban areas.

3       Please note that I am not protesting as  
4 an "enemy" of the Forest Service, but as a true  
5 friend. Indeed, my wife and I have received plaques  
6 from the Forest Service commending us for our  
7 thousands of hours of volunteer work over a period of  
8 thirty years. (All of us have seen good friends do  
9 stupid things that cause us to cringe for them!!)

10       Please send me a copy of the minutes of  
11 the October 21st meeting. Thank you.

12       Sincerely,

13       Donald S. Fraser

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